

Hafa Adai!

Suda pleads guilty, gets 30-day prison term in assault case.

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Crisostomo brings up 4 issues in his appeal.

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INSIDE
NATION



An unarmed 18-year-old whose fatal shooting by police has sparked a week of protests suffered a bullet wound to his right arm that may indicate his hands were up or his back was turned.

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WORLD



Iraqi and Kurdish forces re-captured Iraq's largest dam from Islamic militants Monday following dozens of U.S. airstrikes.

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CAMPUS



Sometime in elementary school, you quit counting your fingers and just know the answer.

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Inos asks Obama not to expand Pacific marine monument

» Governor says last-minute promises in 2008 'broken, remain unfulfilled'

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Gov. Eloy S. Inos asked President Barack Obama not to expand the Pacific Remote Islands Marine National Monument which the governor believes is "the first step in expanding other marine national monuments in the western Pacific," while at the same time lamenting that most of the promises made leading to the creation of the Marianas Trench Marine National Monument in 2009 were "broken and remain unfulfilled."



Inos

The CNMI's three northernmost islands of Maug, Uracas, and Asuncion are part of the Marianas Trench Marine National Monument that the Bush White House designated in 2009.

"On behalf of the affected communities in the western Pacific who believe in the sustainable use of marine resources, I urge you to reconsider your proposal to expand the boundaries of the PRIMNM or

See INOS on Page 4

Yumul packs up Senate office, says he will follow Constitution

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Independent lieutenant governor candidate Ray N. Yumul has been clearing out his Senate office on Capital Hill and in his first public comment about his stand-



Yumul

ing as a public official—albeit posted only on social media yesterday—he acknowledged a constitutional provision requiring him to resign as a senator upon the certification of his candidacy.

"My position is clear. The constitution requires me to resign and I will follow it," Yumul said, responding to a question on social media posed by senatorial candidate, attorney Stephen Woodruff, on his position on Article 8 Section 5 of the NMI Constitution.

Article 8 Section 5 of the NMI Constitution
See YUMUL on Page 4



MEN AT WORK

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

RadioCom employees work on a road-shouldering project under contract with the Department of Public Works, in front of the Commonwealth Health Center on Middle Road in Garapan yesterday afternoon. The 5,000-ft. long road-shouldering is part of a DPW road-marking and improvement project from Chalan Kiya to Sadog Tasi.

A closer look at \$3.14B casino deal implementation schedule

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

By mid-October, Best Sunshine International Ltd./Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC should already have submitted its proposed implementation

schedules for its \$3.14-billion integrated casino resort. It has eight years or up to 2022 to fully complete the project under a maximum 40-year term.

Under the terms of the casino license agreement signed on Aug. 12, such implementation schedules should be pro-

vided to the soon-to-be formed Development Plan Review Committee "within 60 days" of license award.

"We are working on the schedule right now. A team of professionals is working on the timelines...That will set out the construction timeline as well, different

phases, progressive opening of different amenities," said Best Sunshine chief operating officer Terence Tay.

There are three independent implementation schedules—1) initial gaming facility implementation schedule 2)

See CASINO on Page 4

Local



◀ SUNSET VIEW

FERDIE DE LA TORRE

A boy stops on the pathway along Beach Road to view the beautiful sunset over the Saipan Lagoon. Saipan's majestic sunsets have long been a tourist lure despite arrivals to the islands posting a 5-percent decrease in July 2014.

Suda pleads guilty, gets 30-day prison term in assault case

Daisina Suda, a woman who testified that she was forced to assist her then-boyfriend in raping a minor girl, yesterday entered a guilty plea and was slapped with a 30-day prison term for assaulting the former boyfriend last New Year's Day.

Suda signed a plea deal with the government. Through counsel Samuel Mok, she pleaded guilty to assault.

Superior Court Associate Judge Kenneth L. Govendo accepted Suda's guilty plea and the plea agreement.

Govendo sentenced the defendant to six months in prison, all suspended except 30 days.

Suda, 41, was given credit for 30 days that she already served in prison.

It means that she will no longer serve a prison term. She will be placed on one-year probation.

Assistant attorney general Chemere McField represented the government.

According to the factual basis of the plea agreement, on Jan. 1, 2014 on Saipan, Suda chased after Parvez MD. Barpery, yelled at him and threw a sharp instrument at him.

Detective Flora Danica B. Agumon stated in her report that on Jan. 1 at 11:02am, two police officers were dispatched to Lower Miha for a reported domestic violence incident.

Upon arrival at the scene, the two officers came across a shirtless and barefooted Bangladeshi man later identified as Barpery, who was running on the roadway.

Barpery flagged down the police officers' vehicle. Barpery claimed that his then-girlfriend Suda was chasing him with a knife.

One officer walked toward Suda and asked her to stop from walking closer to Barpery.

Suda stopped and explained that her boyfriend beat her up. Barpery, however, directed the attention of the officer to a silver kitchen knife which was on the ground that she allegedly threw at him. He also showed his injury.

The boyfriend told police that he was resting inside his bedroom when Suda came and started asking for money. When he told her he already gave her money that previous night, she got mad and shouted bad words at him.

Suda then allegedly bit Barp-

ery right below his right nipple so he pushed her away. She grabbed a kitchen knife and told him she was going to kill him.

Barpery ran outside to seek help, but Suda followed her and threw the knife at him. He was not hit and continued running away.

Last May, Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho slapped a maximum sentence of six months in prison against Suda, who pleaded guilty to disturbing the peace.

Suda was given credit for the time served.

Camacho said the defendant admitted in court that she participated in letting her then-boyfriend Barpery in allegedly sexually assaulting a 17-year-old girl inside San Jose Motel in May 2013.

As part of the plea deal in the sexual assault case, the government agreed to dismiss the charge of sexual assault in the first degree against Suda. She testified in the jury trial of Barpery.

After a two-day trial, a Superior Court jury unanimously found Barpery not guilty to the charge of sexual assault in the first degree.

Camacho, who presided over the trial and decided on the misdemeanor charge, also found Barpery not guilty as to the charge of disturbing the peace.

In explaining his verdict, Camacho found the testimonies of the government's three main witnesses—the alleged victim, her cousin, and Suda—not credible.

Camacho said he believes that sex did in fact take place and the alleged victim agreed to have sex in exchange for money. (Ferdie de la Torre)



NMHC'S 20TH ANNIVERSARY and HOUSING EXPOSITION



The community is invited to join NMHC celebrate its 20th Anniversary since its establishment as a public housing corporation for the CNMI. In conjunction, NMHC will be hosting a Housing Exposition (Expo). Important key players, organizations, government agencies, and companies that promote the Commonwealth's housing industry will be participating for this community event.

If you are in the market to purchase, build, or rehabilitate a home, then the Housing Expo is the right place for you. At the Expo, you will meet and interact with participants from all facets of the housing industry:

- Banks and Financial Institutes
- Insurance Underwriters
- Real Estate Companies
- Architects & Engineers
- Contractors/Developers
- Title Companies
- Suppliers
- Appraisal Companies

Friday, August 22nd, 2014
Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center
Time: 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

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Saipan Tribune

NMTI targets former FEBC building as its new facility

By **DENNIS B. CHAN**
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Northern Marianas Technical Institute has set its eyes on the former Far Eastern Broadcasting Building in Marpi as its new facility.

A formal proposal was sent to

the Department of Public Lands Secretary Pedro A. Tenorio on Aug. 12 asking that NMTI be granted the use of the former FEBC facility.

According to the proposal, NMTI president Agnes McPhetres and education director Victorino Cepeda first

inspected the site about three weeks ago and were excited about how the facility could meet their program and student needs.

The proposal detailed the planned usage of facility's five buildings and several housing units.

Building 1 of the FEBC facility—the two-story building on the left side as one enters the site—is planned for a learning resources library, an English and math computer lab, and a librarian's office. Plans for its second floor will be faculty office and administration offices.

Building 2, across from Building 1, located on the left entering the site, is planned for offices for admissions and records, student services, a student center, as well as four classrooms and auto mechanics site at its back side.

Building 3, facing the ocean,

is planned for NMTI's construction trades program, which will offer courses in electricity and plumbing.

Building 4 across from Building 3, is planned for a Hotel/Hospitality and Culinary Arts Center.

Building 5—a two-story building—will be used for housing for students from Tinian and Rota.

The three houses at the entrance of is planned as off-island housing for faculty, with rental being considered for NMTI income.

In a media conference for recently awarded scholarships to a couple of NMTI students yesterday, Cepeda expressed belief in the current state of the facility to meet their programs needs.

"It's all set, all we have to do is put the [NMTI] sign and go in there," he said.

The proposal highlighted the site's existing apartments, which NMTI wishes to use to address the housing needs of Rota and Tinian enrollees.

According to the proposal, this is to address the concerns of PSS board members from Rota and Tinian who posed questions on NMTI's available services for those islands.

According to the proposal, the plan to use the former FEBC building was suggested by Gov. Eloy S. Inos when NMTI leaders met with the him to discuss the need for a new facility.

Dikito elected chair of Neighborhood Watch Task Force

Glenn Dikito, Neighborhood Watch block captain for Kagman, was elected last Wednesday, Aug. 13, 2014, as the new chairman of the Neighborhood Watch Task Force, an anti-crime group initiated by the Saipan and Northern Islands Municipal Council.

Sebastian Tajibmai, block captain for Tanapag Neighborhood Watch, is the new vice chairman, while municipal council administrator Frances Muna was chosen as secretary and treasurer.

Dikito, who succeeds Dandan block captain Frank Camacho, is requesting everybody's support and cooperation. The new task force chairman will meet with other block captains to discuss anti-crime initiatives.

Also part of the new leadership's goal is to install Neighborhood Watch signs at public and private schools.

The Neighborhood Watch Task Force will also continue

their community outreach after the November elections.

In Kagman, Reps. Lorenzo Deleon Guerrero and Antonio

Agulto have been supportive and the committee hopes to get

more support from other lawmakers and individuals. (PR)



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
From left, Neighborhood Watch Task Force Task force advisor William Torres, Saipan and Northern Islands Municipal Council chair Ramon Camacho, Task Force re-elected vice chair Sebastian Tajibmai, newly elected secretary/treasurer Frances Muna, new Task Force chair Glenn Dikito, and municipal council member Diego L. Kaipat pose for a group photo.



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Tinian mayor 'fully supports' limiting wharfage fees

Tinian Mayor Ramon Dela Cruz said he "fully supports" Senate Bill 18-56, which limits wharfage fees that the Commonwealth Ports Authority charges to cargo offloaded at a port or harbor in the CNMI. The bill also waives wharfage fees on

cargo shipped to and from the islands within the CNMI.

"For too long, the people of Tinian have been forced to pay double wharfage on products shipped to our island. This practice has unfairly increased the already high cost of living

on Tinian," Dela Cruz said in his letter to House Public Utilities, Transportation and Communications chair Rep. Lorenzo Deleon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan).

The House PUTC Committee is currently reviewing Sen. Frank Cruz's (R-Tinian) Senate

Bill 18-56 for recommendation to the full House.

The Tinian mayor said the bill's passage will allow people of Tinian to "buy more goods with their limited income."

Dela Cruz also recommends amending the bill as introduced to include "a waiver on all passenger facility charges and planeing and de-planeing charges

on inter-island flights to help make transportation more affordable for our people and for guests arriving from foreign destinations but transiting to Tinian and Rota."

He added that encouraging travel between islands will support the CNMI's general economic development.

Senators, during passage of the bill, took turns slamming CPA for what they describe as double wharfage fee imposition. The bill wants to ensure that wharfage fees are charged "one time" for commodities that are offloaded at any port or harbor under CPA jurisdiction. **(Haidee V. Eugenio)**

DPS to close Marpi this Friday

The Department of Public Safety will block off the northern part of the island, Marpi, on Friday, Aug. 29, from 12 noon to 3pm.

The purpose of this blockage is to dispose of the significant collection of unexploded ordinance that has been collected by the Department of Public Safety Explosive Response Team.

All visitors to these popular areas of the island are requested to make arrangements to visit either in the morning before the 12 noon deadline or after the operation has completed at 3pm.

Anyone with questions may contact the Explosives Response Team operational supervisor, Sgt. Anthony I. Macaranas, at 483-5818. **(DPS)**



MEETING BUSINESS LEADERS

U.S. House Natural Resources Committee chair Doc Hastings (R-Wa.), second from right, confers with CNMI business leaders Marian Aldan-Pierce of DFS Saipan, third from right, and McDonald's Saipan president Joe Ayuyu, right, while Gov. Eloy S. Inos looks on during Sunday night's welcome dinner reception at Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan's beachside.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

8-hour water outage on Capital Hill today

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. would like to inform the residents of Capital Hill living along Isa Drive that an eight-hour water outage is scheduled for Wednesday, Aug. 20, from 8am to 4pm.

The purpose of this water outage is to allow for a waterline

connection and diversion due to a new drainage pipe crossing being installed as part of the DPW Cross Island Phase II-B Road Construction Project.

The water outage on Wednesday, Aug. 20, will affect residents living along Isa Drive from the Egigi Road intersection toward

the Kagman Road intersection.

CUC encourages its customers to call the CUC Call Center at 235-0282 or 235-2282 if you have any questions or concerns in regard to no water or low pressure after the specified hours of water outage.

The contractor, MAEDA Corp. and Hawaiian Rock Products, and CUC's water opera-

tions team will be working hard to return service to customers in these affected areas as soon as possible.

CUC apologizes in advance for any inconvenience resulting from this project and the water service interruption. Please direct inquiries to Larry Manacop, project manager, at 236-4332. **(CUC)**

YUMUL

From Page 1

tution reads, "Resignation from Public Office. An elected public official shall resign from office upon certification to be a candidate for another public office, if the term of the office sought begins before the end of the term of the office held."

In his response to Woodruff on social media, Yumul said

he met with some senators last week to discuss the issue "pertaining to my seat...and they suggested for me to come in to the Senate for a final session that was supposed to be scheduled to today but for some reason, the session call was moved to this Thursday. I've been spending the last few days clearing out my personal belongings from my office."

A special session was initially set for yesterday only to tackle

Yumul's standing at the Senate. This did not happen. Instead, the Senate will hold its regular session scheduled for Thursday.

Senators have been waiting for Yumul's resignation letter, only to receive from him a "personal leave" memo dated Aug. 12.

One of the issues now is whether the Senate would allow Yumul to still participate as a senator in the regular session on Thursday, or even tackle the

Yumul issue.

There is also no telling when the Senate would inform the governor of a vacancy at the Senate.

Yumul declined interviews before, during, and after the Commonwealth Election Commission certified his and 98 others' candidacies on Aug. 13.

A day before that, he filed for "personal leave" effective Aug. 15, or two days after the certification of candidacies.

INOS

From Page 1

any other marine monument," Inos said in an Aug. 15 letter to Obama, a copy of which was obtained by *Saipan Tribune* yesterday.

Aug. 15 was the last day for comment submissions to the president's proposal to expand the Pacific Remote Islands Marine National Monument seaward to the 200-nautical mile boundary of the exclusive economic zone.

Inos said with great respect to congressional laws, the "unilateral top-down approach in designating marine monuments via the Antiquities Act for conservation purposes is an affront to Pacific Island communities."

"We believe that wise conservation doesn't necessarily have to be about preservation and establishing no-take marine protected areas," the governor added.

Embracing the use of existing management regimes such as the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, he said, will help ensure

sustainable harvests.

Rep. Anthony Benavente (Ind-Saipan), chairman of the House Natural Resources Committee, said yesterday he supports the governor's position, adding that his committee will be recommending full House adoption of Rep. Richard Seman's (R-Saipan) joint resolution that basically asks Obama not to go ahead with his marine monument expansion plan.

Benavente echoed Seman's earlier sentiment that outgoing presidents always want legacies such as Bush's ocean legacy that led to marine monument designations, and he said it is no different with Obama.

"While the Aug. 15 deadline for comment submission has passed, we would still be moving ahead with the recommendation to the full House to adopt the resolution," Benavente said in a phone interview.

Benavente was referring to Seman's House Joint Resolution 18-19, which asks Obama to withdraw his proposed marine monument expansion.

Obama's proposed expansion deals with the Pacific Remote

Islands Marine National Monument which is south and west of Hawaii, protecting areas around Kingman Reef, Palmyra Atoll, Howland Island, Baker Island, Jarvis Island, Johnston Atoll, and Wake Island.

Like the Marianas Trench Marine National Monument, the Pacific Remote Islands Marine National Monument was also established by President Bush in 2009.

'Paper park'

In his two-page letter, Inos said the Marianas archipelago is home of the Marianas Trench Marine National Monument which he describes as a "paper park that has been mostly neglected since it was designated in 2009."

"The former Administration was only able to gain local support for the Marianas Trench Marine National Monument after a series of promises were made at the last minute during December 2008. To date, most of those promises were broken and remain unfulfilled," Inos told the president.

Fisheries, he said, are very im-

portant to the CNMI economy, especially due to its geography which puts it between three and four hours flying time from every East and Southeast Asian country.

The governor said the CNMI has a history of supporting U.S. tuna fisheries, including pole-and-line fishing, purse seining and longlining.

"The continued loss of U.S. waters reduces the attractiveness to the CNMI of supporting these fisheries and industries. While other Pacific islands are actively developing their tuna fisheries with strong support from their governments, the U.S. appears to be more intent on arbitrarily closing commercial fishing ventures based on an East Coast conservation paradigm," Inos added.

Regional concern

Inos also said that the president's proposed expansion is of great concern not only to the CNMI but also to those he has talked to in Guam, Hawaii, and American Samoa.

"Noticeable impacts will likely be experienced by the Hawaii longline fleet, as well

as the tuna cannery in American Samoa. Less obvious will be the continued gradual deterioration of Pacific Island culture and tradition as more waters in the western Pacific are taken out of sustainable use in the name of conservation," he said.

The governor also said that although the western Pacific represents different island cultures, the common thread that binds them together is their island heritage, strong cultural association with the sea, respect for the environment, and the belief in the sustainable use of natural resources.

"I find it ironic that the primary purpose of Congress for passing the Antiquities Act was specifically to protect the culture and heritage of Native American Indians. Now, one hundred and eight years later, this very same law is being used to threaten the culture and heritage of native Pacific islanders," Inos said.

He added that Pacific island communities are strong and proven advocates of conservation, and have an active and effective collaborative approach

to conservation that is based on heritage and sustainable use of natural resources.

Copies of the governor's letter to Obama were also sent to Guam Gov. Eddie Calvo, American Samoa Gov. Lolo Letalu Matalasi Moliga, Hawaii Gov. Neil Abercrombie, Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP), CNMI Senate President Ralph Torres (R-Saipan), CNMI House Speaker Joseph Deleon Guerrero (R-Saipan), Interior Secretary Sally Jewel, DLNR Secretary Arnold Palacios, and Western Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Council executive director Kitty Simonds.

The Western Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Council, whose voting members include Hawaii, American Samoa, Guam and the CNMI, earlier said that expanding Pacific marine sanctuaries betrays U.S. fishermen.

They said the plan would provide no added conservation benefit to marine resources, but will economically harm the area's fishermen and those reliant on Pacific marine resources.

Crisostomo brings up 4 issues in his appeal

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Joseph Acosta Crisostomo, a habitual offender who is serving life imprisonment for kidnapping, raping, killing, and robbing bartender Emerita R. Romero, has brought up four is-

sues in his appeal to the CNMI Supreme Court.

Crisostomo, through counsel Janet H. King, is appealing to reverse Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho's judgment of conviction issued on April 28, 2014, sentencing order entered on May 28, 2014, and two pretrial orders.

The pre-trial orders subject on Crisostomo's appeal are Camacho's order issued on Sept. 11, 2013, that denied defendant's

motion to change trial venue, and the judge's order entered on Sept. 12, 2013 that denied defendant's motion to suppress pretrial identification in which Joanne Castro identified the voice of Crisostomo, her former common-law husband for 17 years, on a 911 audio recording.

A check with the Supreme Court files yesterday showed that except for the notice of appeal, neither King nor the CNMI government has yet to file briefs.

Crisostomo, 41, is currently appealing two other sentences that he is serving

in two criminal cases.

In Romero's case, on April 24, 2014, a jury returned a guilty verdict against Crisostomo on the charges of first degree murder, kidnapping, sexual assault in the first degree, and robbery. Camacho found him guilty of assault and battery, and disturbing the peace.

Romero, 37, was last seen boarding into a car near her house in Garapan in the early morning of Feb. 5, 2012. Two days later, Federal Bureau of Investigation agents found her body in a small room at an abandoned La Fiesta Mall in San Roque/As Matuis. Autopsy showed she was beaten up and strangled to death with a pair of leggings.



Crisostomo

RAYMOND ROBERTO CASE

At 7th day of jury selection, federal jury finally empanelled

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The federal court yesterday afternoon finally completed the jury selection in the trial of former acting CNMI Division of Fish and Wildlife director Raymond Borja Roberto.

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona empanelled 16 jurors, including two alternates, during the seventh day of jury selection—said to be the longest selection in the CNMI so far.

Manglona ordered the jurors and the parties in the case to come back for the trial today, Wednesday, at 8am. Counsels' opening arguments are expected to commence.

Assistant U.S. attorney Rami S. Badawy and U.S. Attorney for the Districts of Guam and NMI Alicia A.G. Limtiaco are prosecuting the case.

Guam attorney David J. Lujan and Saipan lawyer Joaquin Torres are private retained counsel for Roberto. The defendant has also three private

investigators—John Mantanona, Edward Chaco, and Christopher Leon Guerrero, who is a Saipan lawmaker.

The indictment alleged that Roberto persuaded three underage girls to have sex with him from March 1, 2013, to July 18, 2013.

In the witness tampering case, it was alleged that while Roberto was detained pending trial, he attempted to influence the testimony of an individual on April 24, 2014.

Roberto pleaded not guilty.

ON \$2.5M IN UNPAID TAXES

Finance discharges tax liens on Sablan Construction's property

The CNMI government has discharged from tax liens on three parcels of land belonging to Sablan Construction Company Ltd. that were attached to secure the payment of \$2.5 million in unpaid taxes.

Department of Finance Division of Revenue & Taxation collection and remittance branch manager Richard F. Santos has informed the U.S. District Court for the NMI about the Commonwealth's issuance of certificate of dis-

charge of Sablan Construction's property from CNMI tax liens.

According to the certificate, Sablan Construction is indebted to the CNMI for unpaid taxes in the amounts of \$2,285,487.39; \$119,286.27; \$33,617.30; and \$22,813.82, or for a total of \$2,461,204.78.

To secure the collection of taxes, the CNMI attached liens on the company's property consisting of three parcels of land.

In issuing the certificate of

discharge, Santos said Finance has determined that the interests of the CNMI in the property is "now worthless."

No other explanation was included in the certificate of discharge.

In July 2012, the U.S. Internal Revenue Service filed a notice of federal tax lien against Sablan Construction for allegedly failing to pay \$89,330.02 in employer's quarterly federal tax return from 2008 to March 2012. *(Ferdie de la Torre)*

Hospitality Class enrollment for high school juniors and seniors now open



CLASS: American Hotel and Lodging Educational Institute's Skills, Tasks and Results Training (S.T.A.R.T.)

WHEN: Monday, Wednesday and Friday after school from approximately 3:00PM – 6:00PM. Classes will follow the PSS fall semester schedule.

WHERE: Classes will be taught at MHS, KHS and SSHS after regular school hours.

WHO CAN APPLY: Seniors and juniors at Marianas, Saipan Southern or Kagman High Schools.

COMMITMENT: 9 hours of class room work per week, consistent attendance and after class work and reading required. Student will be expected to pass regular quizzes and tests and must pass the final exam with 70% or above to received your certificate.

SPACE AVAILABLE: There are 25 slots for each high school for a total of 75 slots for the Fall semester.

COST: No charge to the student. PSS has contracted Latte Training Academy for this course.

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO REGISTER: Contact Latte Training Academy at lattetrainingacademy@outlook.com or call 287-7037. Spaces are filling up, so act soon.

If you are interested in hotel, resort or other tourism related careers there is no better opportunity for you. If you are ready to invest in your future... contact Latte Training Academy today.

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NMTI students awarded scholarships to cover tuition

By DENNIS B. CHAN
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Two scholarships worth \$500 each were awarded to a pair of students from the Northern Marianas Technical Institute to help cover the cost of their tuition.

The students, Dramina Sablan and Josh Muna, began their courses in hotel and restaurant management in February and finished in April.

Sablan works in the ac-

counting office of Hyatt Regency Saipan as a general cashier and Muna as a bellman at the same hotel.

Muna who lives all the way in San Antonio—NMTI is located in Lower Base—said it took a lot of “sacrifice” and time to finish his courses, but appreciates the scholarships and expects if they were more funds available NMTI would have more students.

He said he has been telling his friends about the professional

training he received, as he says he has many friends his age who are in tough financial situations and that learning the right skills will help them get employed.

“Without NMTI and hotel and restaurant [courses] I don’t think I’d be working in a hotel,” said Sablan.

The Saipan and Northern Island Municipal Council awarded the scholarships.

Ramon B. Camacho, the council’s chairman, said this is the first year the award has been given to assist NMTI students with their tuition.

“They are unemployed. There is no way for them to secure funding for their tuition, so we need to help. The willingness is there to further their education and skills,” Camacho said.

The scholarship money came by the way of remaining yearly dues from Association of Mariana Island Mayors, with Saipan, Tinian, and Rota getting a \$1,000 share every year.

Camacho expects the scholarship to be awarded yearly.

“I’m in support of college students, but college students can avail grants, NMTI students

cannot avail grants,” he said.

Victorino Cepeda, education director at NMTI, said the relatively low number of students at NMTI would increase if there were more funding for students

as the two hurdles for interested students in the institute are transportation and tuition.

Nevertheless, he said he encourages students to come as payment can be negotiated once the student enters the workforce.

“When they finish and they

get a job, then they can start paying back at least \$50 every payday,” he said.

Both students began their jobs at Hyatt while taking courses at NMTI. After work during the day, they attended 6pm classes.

“It was worth it,” Muna said, “Because in the end, I got a job.”

BECQ invites everyone to a free Snorkels Event

The Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality, in partnership with Let’s Move Marianas! and Mariana Islands Nature Alliance, would like to invite the community to its second free CNMI Snorkels event this Saturday, Aug. 23, 2014 at 9am in Susupe, next to Naked Fish.

Come out and hop in the ocean with one of our marine biologists to learn more about our underwater world –and as an extra bonus get a work out in for your day! Snorkeling to the tanks and back will be from

9am to 11am.

Are you under the age of 18? If so, please make sure to bring a parent/guardian with you so they can sign a waiver for you.

Don’t have snorkeling gear? Not a problem! If you don’t have your own gear, we have gear for you!

As an added bonus, Naked Fish will give a 15 percent discount on special lunch items to all participants!

So mark your calendars and join us this Saturday for a day of fun and adventure into our underwater world. (PR)



MIDTERM RALLY

Children playing are dwarfed by a giant campaign poster of the Republican gubernatorial team of Gov. Eloy S. Inos and his running mate Senate President Ralph Torres (R-Saipan) during the GOP’s midterm rally in Susupe on Sunday. The CNMI is headed for a four-way gubernatorial race on Nov. 4.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Five homestay students visit Saipan Mayor’s Office

By JAYSON CAMACHO
jayson_camacho@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Five students from Itoda School in Japan arrived Monday evening and visited the Saipan Mayor’s Office yesterday morning.

The students from Itoda School are staying on Saipan for one week to experience the cultural exchange program with host families. They will be staying until Aug. 25.

Eleven-year-olds Hiromi Nishino and Eito Nakamura are staying with one host fam-

ily, while 10-year-olds Haruto Tachikawa, Seita Hiroki, and Kaito Nakashima are staying with one other host family as well.

Saipan Mayor Marian Tudela said that she has so far enjoyed the program with students visiting from Japan to experience the diverse culture and local customs in the CNMI.

Tudela also received generous gifts from the students.

“I am so happy to experience this program with students from Japan that want to learn about our culture here,” Tudela said.

According to program coor-

dinator Yuki Kishimoto since she started handling the program, three separate groups have visited Saipan for homestay with one more arriving on November.

It is the Itoda group’s second time visiting Saipan and they have about 10 students.

“This will help promote lasting relationship between Japan and Saipan because they have deep history together,” Kishimoto said.

The students did sightseeing on Saipan’s historical sites and visited the Man’amko Center.

The students will be visiting and doing activities at Saipan World Resort. Tomorrow they will be heading to Managaha and on Friday they will be heading to Grace Christian Academy. The exchange students will spend time with their respective host families over the weekends before leaving for Japan next Monday.

For more information on the homestay program, call the Saipan Mayor’s Office at 234-6208 or visit its office at the second floor of the Ladera Building along Beach Road in Oleai.

Office of the Clerk
UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
P.O. Box 500687 Saipan, MP 96950

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF SUSPENSION OF
RAMON K. QUICHOCHO

Pursuant to Local Disciplinary Rule 17(e), the Clerk of Court hereby publishes notice of the suspension of Ramon K. Quichocho from the practice of law in the United States District Court for the Northern Mariana Islands for a period of three years. The suspension will be effective 30 days after the entry of the Court’s Order dated August 13, 2014 in 1:14-MC-0028.

LAND ASSIGNMENT

1. **LAND AND BUILDING ASSIGNMENT:** CONSIST OF 2 LOTS (PICTURE ABOVE) WITH 4 COMMERCIAL UNIT, FORMERLY NIKO LAUNDRY AND NIKO MARKET AND 3 RESIDENTIAL UNITS
LAND AREA: LAND (A) 1124 SQ.M , LAND (B) 1111 SQ. M
LOCATED AT SAN ROQUE BEFORE PALM RESORT AND FORMER LA FIESTA

2. **LAND ASSIGNMENT:** CONSIST OF 2 LOTS **LAND (A):** 737 SQ.M **LAND (B)** 779 SQ.M **LOCATED** ACROSS 13TH FISHERMAN MONUMENT AND NEXT TO MARAIANAS EYE CLINIC

3. **LAND AND HOUSE ASSIGNMENT– LAND AREA:** 5,000 SQ. M **LOCATED** AT DANDAN NEAR DANDAN GOLF RANGE

4. **LAND AND BUILDING ASSIGNMENT–LAND AREA:** 757 SQ.M **LOCATED** AT SAN ANTONIO ACROSS PAKPAK BEACH NEAR PIC HOTEL AND PIC STAFF BARRACKS

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CALL
NIKO CONSULTANT INC. OR EMER AT 234-1818 OR 287-0693
EMAIL: ebanayos@yahoo.com

Notice of Zoning Board Meeting

*** amended ***

The regular meeting of the Zoning Board will be held on Thursday, August 21st, 2014 at 5:00 PM, Zoning Office, 2nd Floor, Joeten DanDan Commercial Bldg., Saipan (Tel: 234-9661 • Fax: 234-9666 • e-mail: www.zoning.gov.mp)

A. Preliminary Matters

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Adoption of Agenda
4. Adoption of July 10th, 2014 minutes
5. Public Comments (not related to files for discussion under item B. Public Hearings)

B. Public Hearings

1. Conditional Use Application #2014-0592: Songbird Aviation, LLC is proposing to operate light aircrafts known as “weight shift control light sport aircraft” or “trikes” on public land lot# 053 A 77 in Marpi. This use is classified as Amusement, Outdoor and is permitted in this district as Conditional Use. This area is located southeast of Banzai Cliff between the veterans cemetery and the former Cowtown, and is zoned as Rural.
2. Conditional Use Application #2014-2598: Matsumoto Trust (Matsumoto Fish Farm) is proposing to operate an aquaculture farm on TR #21043-R1. This use is classified as “Aquaculture, Commercial” and is permitted in this district as a Conditional Use. This area is located on I-Denni, Capitol Hill and can be accessed from Isa Drive and Cator Pl. It is zoned as Rural.

C. Communications/ Reports

D. Old Business.

1. None

E. New Business

1. Office operations report

F. Executive (Closed) Session.

G. Miscellaneous: Other Matters, Announcements, Next Meeting, Adjourn.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the Board meeting, or if you require assistance, please contact the Zoning Administrator, Therese T. Ogumoro, at 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq. & 10 CMC 3511, et seq.).

/s/ Diego C. Blanco, Zoning Board Chairman

EDWARD C. ARRIOLA
Attorney-at-Law
Sablan Bldg., Suite 1-F
San Jose, Saipan
P.O. Box 501788
Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: (670) 233-5507
Fax: (670) 233-5509

Attorney for Petitioner

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE
COMMONWEALTH OF THE
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN THE MATTER OF : CIVIL ACTION
THE ESTATE OF : NO. 14-0161
MARIA ROSARIO :
SABLAN CAMACHO : NOTICE OF
HEARING

Deceased. :

To: All creditors, claimants, Nilda Susana Camacho Sykes, Jacqueline Remedio Camacho Aldan, Jason Roque Sablan Camacho, Christopher Ramon C. Camacho, Ivanka Marie C. Camacho, John Gregorio C. Camacho, Millianna Maria C. Camacho, Lewis Jonathan Camacho, Lee Charles Camacho, Lance Joseph Camacho, and Samantha S.M. Camacho.

Notice is hereby given that a petition for letters of administration seeking appointment of **CARMEN CAMACHO MARATITA**, as Administratrix of the Estate of **MARIA ROSARIO SABLAN CAMACHO** (“deceased”), was filed in the above-entitled Court. A hearing has been set for the above-entitled matter and will be held in Courtroom 223A of the Commonwealth Superior Court, located at the House of Justice-Guma Hustisia-Imwal Aweewe, Susupe, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, at 1:30 p.m. on September 30, 2014.

All persons who having any objection to the petition, or having a claim against the estate or the deceased, should file their claim with the Clerk of Court of the Commonwealth Superior Court within sixty (60) days after the first publication.

Dated this 14th day of August, 2014

/s/ Deputy Clerk of Court

Aurelia U. Becina
P.O. Box 503250
Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: (670) 989-1164

Pro Se,

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE
COMMONWEALTH OF THE
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

AURELIA UNTALAN) FCD-DI
BECINA) CIVIL ACTION
Petitioner,) NO. 14-0183
vs.) SUMMONS
ELY V. BAMBA)
Respondent,)

To: Elvy V. Bamba

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the Complaint, a copy of which is given to you herewith, within twenty (20) days after service of the Summons upon you, and to deliver or mail a copy of your answer to Aurelia Untalan Becina whose address is P.O. Box 503250, Saipan, MP 96950 as soon as practical after filing your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Courts for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of this Court at Susupe, Saipan, MP 96950. It may be prepared for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of this Court by messenger or Mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice. If you fail to file and answer in accordance with this summons, judgment by default may be taken against you for relief in the complaint.

Dated this 21st day of April, 2014

/s/ Clerk of Court

CW transition plan included in Democrats platform

The CNMI Democratic Party has developed a Complete CW Transition Plan to address the need to create jobs by transitioning more U.S. locals into the workforce to reduce dependency on foreign laborers, which has been going on since 1983.

In a statement, the party said it has put together its platform months ago and a formal presentation to the voters will be made soon given the recent concerns over the CW transition plans by the Public School System and the Northern Marianas College.

Just recently this administration requested and was granted extension of CW program beyond the cutoff date of December 2014 pursuant to federal immigration law 110-229.

This request was made after five years of noncompliance to the mandates of PL 110-229, the Consolidate Natural Resources Act of 2008.

The Democratic Party said had the administration taken advantage and made efficient and effective use of the Technical Assistance Program available and required under Title VII of the CNRA, the “blanket” extension request would most likely not have been necessary.

Obviously, the party said, the failure of this administration to establish a transition program for recruitment, training, and

hiring of local U.S. citizens into the private sector work market even with funding provided proves these conclusions:

- Previous and current administrations have no comprehensive plan for hiring U.S. unemployed citizens to replace CWs;

- This administration prefers the presence of CW in the Commonwealth;

- Lack of interest on the plight of thousands of unemployed youth and their future; and

- No confidence in U.S. citizens’ occupational abilities.

The party added that PSS recently admonished their failed attempt to train students for jobs in the tourism industry and the Board of Regents at NMC are also concerned about the need for NMC to be more aligned with workforce needs for employees.

To remedy this, the party has developed a public service program for students that will function like a state-wide vocational/technical training program applicable to all the entry level positions presently occupied by CWs.

When elected, candidates running under the Democratic Party will seek legislation requiring PSS and NMC to create a public service vocational program that will allow students to

earn course credits for working in the community in their perspective fields of study.

The party said all public and private employers using CWs in their entry level positions will be required by law to receive a student(s) from PSS and/or NMC to be trained for the position(s) and upon graduation a student will be placed in the position permanently allowing for the exit of CWs.

The Democratic Party said its plan will create jobs for local students and allow for a more controlled and accountable transition of the CW workforce.

The CW Transition Program will cover virtually every field of employment where CWs are employed making for a complete approach to creating jobs for graduating high school students who don’t intend on going to college.

NMC students who participate in the program will attain and even higher level of education and experience in their fields of study, which should qualify them for potential supervisory positions.

High school students will gain as much as 1,500 hours and NMC students will also gain up to 1,000 hours of services. The details of how many course credit hours students will be able earn at work still needs to be worked out with PSS and

NMC but the party is very confident its plan will solve PSS’ and NMC’s challenges for teachers and a way to train locals to replace CWs.

Benefits of the CW Transition Plan:

The CW Transition Plan is a win, win, win, win opportunity for all the stakeholders:

1. Students will now get on-the-job training in exchange for course credits towards graduation.
2. Employers will get “part-time” free labor to train with the opportunity to observe and grade potential employees for hundreds of hours before hiring them.
3. PSS and NMC will experience a decrease in their need for teachers with students entering the Vocational Training Program which will definitely be a financial windfall for these institutions.
4. The CNMI will finally have a genuine working plan to replace as many of the CWs as possible before the five-year deadline expires. Each time the CNMI fails to respond to federal demands for change the islands end up being forced to change by the federal government so the CNMI must start reacting to our federal leadership instead of doing nothing which is what has happened with the CW program.

The Logistics & Transportation Challenges:

The only challenge the CNMI will face with the CW Transition Plan is the logistics of setting up and coordinating the many jobs, creating the policies that will allow for course credits toward graduation, and the transportation logistics of getting students to work from school and back home.

The identification of employers, the jobs available and the creation of policies will be virtually costless to these institutions and the only real financial challenge will be paying for the additional transportation of students. The busing of these vocational education students from school after lunch to their jobsites does not pose that much of a problem since school buses are not functioning mid-day and bus routes can be established in the evenings for these students’ pick-up with the additional transportation cost being the only challenge.

However, much of this cost has already been considered by the federal government with the implementation of the Consolidated National Resource Act of 2008 (Federal Law 110-229) so the CNMI actually has the funding to cover these costs. This federal law grants funding for Training a local workforce but the CNMI has never taken full advantage of these available funds due to our lack of a CNMI-wide plan for training its youth and future workforce.

The party fully realizes that it may take us a bit longer to replace all the CWs and in fact we believe the CNMI may continue to need highly technical number of CWs to shore up its workforce. The party is also keenly aware of the general interests that most CWs only want to remain in the CNMI to work and are not seeking citizenship which we oppose. The party believes it is not fair to locals for all CWs to become citizens at once they must get in line for citizenship like other people who have followed the law which PL 110-229 provides.

In conclusion, the Democratic Party is convinced the present administration has done virtually nothing to implement a transitioning plan as it is the responsibility of the CNMI government to take the lead in transitioning the local workforce. Therefore, it has devised a real plan that will create guaranteed jobs for the islands’ youths when they graduate from PSS and/or NMC while transitioning as many of the CWs as possible out of the workforce. The party’s CW Transition Plan is a research-based and proven practice for training a workforce. *(PR)*



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Office of the Secretary of Public Works
2nd Floor Joeten Commercial Building, Oleai, Saipan, MP 96950



INVITATION FOR BIDS
DPW-14-IFB-005

TEXAS ROAD IMPROVEMENTS, SAIPAN, CNMI

Governor Eloy S. Inos and Lt. Governor Jude U. Hofschneider, through the Department of Public Works (DPW) are soliciting sealed bids for the Texas Road Improvements, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

The project package will be available on or after **August 6, 2014** at Department of Public Works, Technical Services Division, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan. A non-refundable payment of **One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00)** is required for each set. Payment must be made to the CNMI Treasurer and a receipt of payment must be presented when obtaining the Scope of Work at the DPW Technical Services Division. All interested bidders are also required to include Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC can be obtained at the Department of Commerce/Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) on Capital Hill.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, dated May 24, 2001.

There will be a **Pre-bid Conference** for this project on **August 22, 2014, 9:00 a.m.** local time at the Department of Public Works Conference Room 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center Office. The Prospective bidders are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the site. All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. local time on **August 27, 2014** to **Mr. Vicente C. Cabrera, Acting Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547. Response to questions shall be shared with prospective bidders.

Prospective bidders should examine and review the invitation for bids with care. If it should appear to a prospective bidder that the performance of the work under the contract or any of the matters relative thereto is not sufficiently described or explained in the invitation for bids, or that any discrepancy exists between different parts of the invitation for bids, or that full intent of the invitation for bids is not clear, then the prospective bidder shall submit a written request for clarification no later than ten (10) working days before the scheduled bid opening at 4:30 pm to **Mr. Vicente C. Cabrera, Acting Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547.

The prospective bidder shall examine carefully the site of the proposed work and the invitation for bids before submitting a bid.

The Contracting Officer (CO) may, upon recommendation of the Contracting Officer's Technical Representative (COTR), issue an addendum notifying all prospective bidders known to have received an invitation for bids, or if issued after the deadline for submission of the notice of intention to bid, to those persons who submitted such notice, of any changes to the invitation for bids. The Department of Public Works will make every reasonable attempt to notify all persons who obtained the invitation for bids from the Technical Services Division by telephone to pick up the addendum or if the CO chooses, the addendum may be mailed or delivered personally or by facsimile machine. If the bid proposal requires the acknowledgment of addenda, the prospective bidder shall indicate the date of each addendum in the space provided. **It shall be the prospective bidder's responsibility to confirm the existence of any addendum by telephoning the COTR at (670) 234-9828/9838 no later than ten (10) working days before the scheduled bid opening.**

Sealed bids must be marked **"DPW-14-IFB-005"**. For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than 10:00 a.m. local time **September 4, 2014**. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional Seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to bid. Notices of Intent to bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than 10:00 a.m. local time **September 4, 2014**, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 654-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@tpicm.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than **September 4, 2014** and must be received no later than **September 15, 2014**. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, at 10:00 a.m. local time, **September 18, 2014**. However, if no notices of intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at 10:30 a.m. local time, on **September 4, 2014**.

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) a bid security of fifteen (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. **Bid security shall be on a bid bond, in cash, by certified check, cashiers check or other form acceptable to the government. A surety company shall hold the certificate of authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General. Surety requiring approval of the Attorney General must be pre-approved prior to bid submission.** Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". If a bid bond is submitted it must be accompanied by an Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC).

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations **§70-30.3-245**. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price for contracts greater than \$25,000.00. Prior to the execution of the contract, the selected contractor shall submit:

- a) A current license from the bonding company showing that it has authority to issue bond in the CNMI, and
- b) A certification from the bonding company that the unencumbered value of its assets (exclusive of all outstanding commitments on other bond obligations) exceed the penal amount of each bond.

A contractor submitting an unacceptable payment or performance bond may be permitted a reasonable time, as determined by the P&S Director, to substitute an acceptable bond prior to executing a contract.

Acceptable assets are only:


- 1) Cash
- 2) US Gov't Securities
- 3) Stocks and Bonds traded on US Security Exchange
- 4) Real Property owned in fee simple in US; and
- 5) Irrevocable Letters of Credit

Performance time for completion of this project is **One Hundred Eighty (180) calendar days** upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. Liquidated damages for delays beyond the established completion date will be assessed at the rate of Five Hundred Dollars (US\$500.00) for each and every day the work is delayed beyond the established completion date.


All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not effect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

/s/ MARTIN C. SABLAN
Secretary of Public Works

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director of Procurement & Supply



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director



INVITATION FOR BIDS
CUC-IFB-14-005

6-IN DIP WATERLINE ABANDONMENT FOR SAN VICENTE AREA EXTENSION PROJECT

The Office of the Executive Director for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the abandonment and installation of waterlines in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. This project consists, in general, of abandonment by cut and cap of existing six (6) inch ductile iron pipe (DIP) water main along Chalan Msgr. Guerrero Rd and the reconnection of any existing service laterals onto near or adjacent service mains. It also includes the installation of a new four (4) inch PVC waterline complete with new flush hydrant, all necessary valves, fittings, service connections, and water meter connections, as well as asphalt paving restoration, traffic control, soil erosion control, etc. CUC requires the Project to be completed in **150 calendar** days from date of award of contract.

The project is funded by a grant from the United States of Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of approval for project award from USEPA.

The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check, wire transfer or credit card in the amount of \$100.00 for one IFB package set. Prospective Bidders for this IFB must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division.

A mandatory pre-bid conference followed by site visits will be held on **August 28, 2014 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Training Room, 3rd Floor, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan.

One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies of the bid must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked **"CUC-IFB-14-005, 6-in DIP Waterline Abandonment for San Vicente Area Extension Project"**, to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, **no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on September 17, 2014**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bids mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement this form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.

A Bid Guarantee of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A Payment Bond of one hundred (100%) percent and a Performance Bond of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, for the protection of all persons supplying labor and material to the contractor or its subcontractors for the performance of the work provided for in the contract.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.

This Invitation for Bids does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of bid in anticipation of a contract. This request and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations. The contractor shall be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. All responses to this Invitation for Bids should take into account any and all taxes, including excise tax, which will become the obligation of the bidder, awarded a contract.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered prospective bidders and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on September 2, 2014** to Manny B. Sablan, Manager, CUC Procurement & Supply Division, via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to James Benavente, Junior Engineer, CUC Water/Wastewater Division via email address james.benavente@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids for any reason and waive any defects in said bid proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

ALAN W. FLETCHER
Executive Director,
Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

MANNY B. SABLAN
Manager, Procurement & Supply
Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

HANMI donates \$1K to MTEC



JAYSON CAAMCHO
Hyatt Regency Saipan general manager Nick Nishikawa, fourth from right, hands a \$1,000 check from HANMI to MTEC chair Vicky Benavente yesterday at the Hyatt Regency Saipan. Joining them are other officers of HANMI and MTEC.

By JAYSON CAMACHO
jayson_camacho@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands donated \$1,000 to the Marianas Tourism Education Council yesterday morning at the Hyatt Regency Saipan.

HANMI president Nick Nishikawa was joined by four MTEC representatives during the check presentation, namely Pacific Islands Club general manager Hiro Sugie, MTEC chair Vicky Benavente, and Delta Airlines sales account executive Chris Concepcion.

Benavente said that she was grateful on receiving the check from HANMI.

"MTEC is a nonprofit organization aimed at educating the public on the tourism industry and its importance in the community," Benavente said.

Nishikawa said that they

have always been donating to organizations helping the community.

"This year we decided to donate to MTEC because they are training young people to become involved in our industry in our future so we try to support them," Nishikawa said.

Nishikawa also said that the funds came from the money raised from their golf tournament every year.

Benavente said the donation from HANMI will help the islands in the coming years because the students who are under the My Wave clubs are the CNMI's future leaders.

"Tourism is important to our community at this young age for the students and that gives us hope for the future as adult in the job market," she said.

Businesses that contributed to the MTEC Tourism

Summit include DOCOMO Pacific, Hyatt Regency Saipan, Pacific Islands Club, Saipan World Resort, Fiesta Resort, Laolao Bay Golf and Resort, Marianas Country Club, DFS Saipan, Aqua Resort Club, and Saipan Sunset Cruise.

By JAYSON CAMACHO
jayson_camacho@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The International Festival of Cultures is set for September featuring various cultures representing the CNMI, according to Marianas Visitors Authority community projects specialist Ryan Calvo.

The launching of MVA's newest annual event will take place at the Paseo de Marianas on September and will start at 5pm. Dates for the festival are Sept. 13, 20,

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

SSHS orientation week Schedule:

- Monday (8/25) - Freshmen & New Student with Parents 9-10:30am
- Tuesday (8/26) - Sophomore with Parents 9-10:30am
- Wednesday (8/27) - Juniors with Parents 9-10:30am
- Thursday (8/28) - Seniors with Parents 9-10:30am
- Friday (8/29) - Make Up Orientation for those that missed their scheduled dates with Parents 9:00 - 10:30 a.m.

Navy to conduct training

The Navy will conduct training at Warning Area 517 Aug. 19-20 from 12:30pm to 8:30pm.

The general public especially fishermen, commercial pilots and marine tour operators are advised to stay clear from the area during the times and dates indicated.

The general location of the training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla training area will be on a 10 nautical mile radius on all quadrants.

Farallon de Medinilla plays a special and unique role in national defense because its location provides access frequency that supports established training requirements. In addition, the air and sea space in the Farallon provides sufficient room for the many different attack profiles necessary to replicate training opportunities in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

W-517 is an irregular shaped polygon comprising of 14,000 nautical square miles of airspace that begins south of Guam and extends south-southwest in international waters. W-517 supports surface and aerial gunnery, missiles, and laser exercises. This will affect fishing in the vicinity of Santa Rosa Reef and Galvez Bank. W-517 is contained within the following coordinates: 13° 10'N/144° 30'E, 13° 10'N/144° 42'E, 12° 50'N/144° 45'E, 11° 00'N/144° 45'E, 11° 00'N/143° 00'E, 11° 45'N/143° 00'E, 12° 50'N/144° 30'E. (PR)

MHS student orientations set

Marianas High School will be having the orientation for school year 2014-2015 as follow:

- Aug. 22: Incoming Sophomores and Juniors, 9:30am-11:00am, School Gym
- Aug. 22: Incoming Seniors, 1pm-2:30pm, School Gym
- Aug. 26: Incoming Freshmen, 9:30am-11:30am, School Gym

Returning students are required to bring an updated Health Certificate and Student Insurance. Parents are highly encouraged to participate. (MHS)

OVR counselor on Rota

This is to inform the public that a vocational rehabilitation counselor will be on Rota from Aug. 20 to 21 at the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation Receiving Center in Songsong Village. If you know anyone who has a disability, wants to work, and is interested in receiving OVR services, contact the OVR Staff at 322-6537/38, or Elizabeth Kani at 532-9351/4 or 286-2013. (OVR)

International Festival of Cultures set for September

27, and Oct. 4—all Saturdays and similar to Taste of the Marianas.

Cultures to be showcased by groups include Chamorro, Carolinian, Samoan, Fijian, Tongan, Tahitian, Marquesese, Cook Islander, Hawaiian, New Zealander, Kosraean, Chuukese, Palauan; Marshallese, Filipino, Bangladeshi, Japanese, Chinese, and Korean.

"We are not accepting participants anymore. Hopefully we will get more groups to join next year," Calvo said.

Calvo said that 13 tents will be set up and each group will showcase and demonstrate their own cultures on all four Saturdays.

Tokens won't be used unlike the Taste of the Marianas, as transactions will be between the groups, customers, and patrons.

Calvo also said that there won't be competitions but he didn't hold out having some form of contests next year. The stage will be set for cultural performances a few days before opening.

In an earlier statement to *Saipan Tribune*, MVA managing director Perry Tenorio said that one of the beauties of CNMI is its rich ethnic diversity and the ability to showcase a multi-cultural festival to visitors.

"In general, fewer people travel to the CNMI during the month of September, so we anticipate this new signature event will also help stimulate travel during the month, as the Taste of the Marianas does in May," Tenorio said.

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

August 20, 2010

Weight of evidence vs rape suspect substantial—judge

Superior Court Associate Judge David A. Wiseman re-imposed yesterday the \$100,000 cash bail on the 17-year-old suspect in the rape of a Kagman student, saying there is substantial evidence against Alfred P. Hocog.

Wiseman reconsidered his earlier decision to lower Hocog's bail at the request of the Office of the Attorney General.

"Although these alleged crimes were committed with other co-defendants, Hocog, according to the testimony at the preliminary hearing, was the principal attacker and the one who continuously beat the victim unconscious," said the judge in a written order issued yesterday.

Hocog, together with three other suspects, have been charged with the kidnapping and rape of the 15-year-old victim.

Hocog, through counsel Joaquin DLG. Torres, had asked the court on Monday to reduce the bail to \$40,000 and that he be released to his father with the posting of \$2,000 cash and his father's house, valued at \$40,000. Wiseman reduced the bail amount to \$75,000 and allowed a 10-percent deposit, together with the property bond.

Man in 'ice' case gets 3-day prison term

The co-defendant of a CNMI Customs inspector in a case of traf-

ficking of methamphetamine or "ice" entered a guilty plea yesterday in the Superior Court.

Peter Magofna Sablan pleaded guilty to conspiracy, possession of a controlled substance, and trafficking of a controlled substance.

Associate Judge Kenneth Govendo sentenced Sablan to three years in jail, all suspended except for three days, with credit for the three days he had already served in prison.

Sablan was released yesterday from the Department of Corrections and placed on three years of supervised probation.

Sablan was also ordered to pay a \$100 fine, \$100 court assessment fee, and \$100 probation service fee, and to forfeit all funds and drugs seized at the time of his arrest.

Sablan will undergo substance abuse counseling at the Community Guidance Center.

Sablan and Customs inspector Joesey S. Maratita were arrested by members of the CNMI Drug Enforcement Task Force in San Antonio on April 26 after a controlled buy operation during which a confidential source was able to buy "ice" from the defendants.

PSS receives \$250K to improve language curriculum

The CNMI Public School System received a \$250,000 grant yesterday so it could complete the Chamorro dictionary and to fund other needs of the PSS Chamorro Carolinian Language Heritage Studies program.

U.S. Rep. Rep. Gregorio Sablan presented PSS officials with a giant replica of the check during yesterday's Board of Education meeting on Capitol Hill.

Sablan said PSS will use the funds for the publication of the revised Chamorro-English dictionary, which has been stalled for years due to funding woes.

"Part of educating our people is getting our language preserved, both Chamorro and Carolinian. It is earmark money which I asked for this particular purpose. The reason we gave it to PSS is because they are very good in what they do...and they will help the agencies complete the dictionary project," Sablan told Saipan Tribune, adding that any balance from the dictionary project will address other needs of the language program such as instructional materials.

Saipan hosts 'Ang Dating Daan' at the World Resort

For the first time, the Saipan chapter of the Members of the Church of God International participated live in the Worldwide Bible Exposition last Tuesday at the Royal Taga Hall of World Resort.

The Members of the Church of God International is a Philippine-based Christian denomination that is widely known for its multimedia program, Ang Dating Daan or The Old Path.

The Worldwide Bible Exposition was hosted by presiding minister Eliseo Soriano, famously known as Bro. Eli, and vice presiding minister Daniel Razon.

Church worker Leonard Legaspi told Saipan Tribune that the Worldwide Bible Exposition involved all six chapters of the Members of the Church of God International in the Philippines through videoconferencing.

Through the videoconference, Soriano and Razon answered questions about faith and religion posed by the participants. All their answers were derived from the Bible, said Legaspi.

Legaspi said the Worldwide Bible Exposition is held every Tuesday and engages the involvement of their international chapters, which take turn participating in the conference.

Another NMC grad passes NCLEX on first attempt

Another nursing graduate of the Northern Marianas College recently passed the challenging National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN) on her first attempt. Cathlene Ricafort, who graduated from NMC last May, took the exam on Aug. 6, 2014.

The NCLEX-RN tests an individual's nursing knowledge, skills and abilities essential to the safe and effective practice of nursing at the entry level.

The exam is used by nursing boards in all U.S. states and territories to award nursing licenses.

"We are very proud of Cathlene for passing the NCLEX on the first attempt," said NMC Nursing Department chair Rosa M. Tudela. "We look forward to seeing her excel and achieve even more accomplishments in the future."

"The major factor that contributed to my passage of NCLEX was my inspirations, my grandparents," said Ricafort. "They told me that education is the most valuable thing

that they and my parents could give me."

"My nursing instructors have all been a great help. They all worked hard to help us prepare for this very important exam. Mr. Jacinto, who I consider my mentor, prepared me very well for this exam," Ricafort added. "All of the long lectures and skills we learned definitely helped a lot. I am thankful that NMC has these instructors to help me prepare not only to become just a nurse but also to become a Registered Nurse by passing

NCLEX."

"I learned to love nursing because I realized that it is not just about science, it is about helping people and it is one of the things that I want to do," Ricafort added.

Asked what advice she would give other students who are preparing to take the NCLEX, Ricafort said, "Study hard and smart, and PRAY harder. Play comes after the NCLEX. As long as you have done your part, God will take care of the rest."

Joy Lacorte, who graduated from NMC last May, also passed the NCLEX-RN on her first attempt earlier this month. (NMC)

ated from NMC last May, also passed the NCLEX-RN on her

first attempt earlier this month. (NMC)



Northern Marianas College graduate Cathlene Ricafort.

NMC

Apericena with executive chef Colombo

On Saturday, Aug. 23, 2014, Giovanni's will celebrate its 19th birthday—and you are invited to celebrate with us!

Apericena is an Italian term coined from the words aperitivo, which means open, and cena, which means dinner. The stand-up cocktail dinner is priced at \$45 per person (\$35 for Club at the Hyatt® members).

For its birthday, Giovanni's will celebrate the rustic, unpretentious and authentic Italian cuisine on which the restaurant has built its reputation. Executive chef Gabriele Colombo, who has vast experience in the regional flavors and cooking techniques of Italy, will spearhead the celebration's culinary team.

The birthday celebration has been designed as a gastronomic journey through the Italian countryside and Chef Colombo's inspired cooking. One of the featured dishes of

the evening will be potato gnocchi (Italian for dumplings). And what makes this dish so special?

"My mother taught me how to cook potato gnocchi in our home kitchen," says Colombo, who also loves to cook spaghetti aglio, olio e peperoncino.

These and many other dishes will be featured at Giovanni's nineteenth birthday bash.

"This celebration wouldn't even be possible without the passionate support of our event partners such as Triple J, MAR PAC, and Pacific Wines and Spirits, and for that we want to say thank you," says director of Food and Beverage Tyrell Pauling.

Gift for birthday guests

Loyal and enthusiastic support for Giovanni's has ensured that the restaurant has remained a quintessential Italian restaurant for more than 19 years. As a gift, the team at Hyatt Regen-



Colombo

cy Saipan will present each guest with a canister of Giovanni's pesto sauce, housemade with the

freshest basil leaves from the hotel's herb garden.

Hyatt Regency offers a full range of services and facilities that are tailored to serve the needs of meeting planners, business travelers and leisure guests. Generally, properties range in size from 200 to more than 2,000 rooms and are conveniently located in urban, suburban, airport, convention and resort destinations throughout the world. Hyatt Regency convention hotels feature spacious, custom-designed meeting and conference facilities that provide a productive environment. In resort locations, Hyatt Regency hotels cater to couples seeking a getaway,

families that wish to enjoy a vacation together, and corporate groups seeking a relaxed atmosphere in which to conduct business and meetings. (Hyatt)

Guam pursuing cases against tax evaders

HAGATNA, Guam (AP)—Despite a lack of resources and investigators, Guam territorial officials say they're pursuing cases against people who evade taxes.

The *Pacific Daily News* reported Monday that Revenue and Tax Director John Camacho says a case has been forwarded to the territory's attorney general.

If the attorney general moves forward, it would be the first tax

fraud case pursued in Guam in more than 15 years.

Camacho declined to comment on the specifics of the pending case or whether it involves businesses or individuals. The territory is pursuing more cases, he said.

Carlina Charfauros, spokeswoman for the attorney general, confirmed the office received the case but declined to provide details. Camacho said the investiga-

tions are difficult because proving people are dodging taxes carries a high burden of proof for the government. He says, among other things, the government needs to prove it was intentional.

"We need to prove there's multiple years involved," Camacho said.

If the government can't put together a solid criminal case, it can also try for a civil settlement.

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUTS



Happy first birthday to our 'lil magas Izaiah Blaze. May the Lord bless you on your special day and many more to come. We love you son. Love, mommy and daddy.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Happy birthday to Randall Masga Pangelinan, one of the sweetest and friendliest person that we have grown to have known this past years, may you have a very special and blessed day, cheers, we love you from your family and friends.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Vacancy for One Gardener

Wage range \$5.55 per hour, increasing at minimum wage rate as required by law. Maintains all gardens, lawns, undeveloped land and paved area at assigned location(s). Assignment may be to any individual combination of private and government owned or leased properties. Performs basic gardening functions independently, more advanced functions under supervision. Operates all types of trade related motorized equipment and hand tools. Responsible for light maintenance of gardening equipment. Knowledge of current best practices in gardening & horticulture methods, materials, and plants. Knowledge of the safe handling of gardening tools and gasoline or electrically operated gardening machinery. Operation and maintenance of drip and sprinkler system. Use of proper pesticides/ insecticides/ herbicides. Must be in good physical condition to perform arduous manual labor out door in all types of weather. Operating knowledge of all types of power gardening tools and machinery. High school level education and an equivalent of at least 3 years of continued experience in gardening and other related trades required. Must arrive for work on time, all of the time. Must be able to work nights, weekends, and holidays, as required. Must be able to plan and execute gardening, work in a self-contained environment and work cooperatively with fellow workers and supervisors. Must be able to read, and write basic English and speak and understand spoken English well. Ability to converse in Tagalog or Chamorro or other non-English languages preferred.

Additional requirements: All applicants must be of good health and good moral character, must be able to follow grooming standards, must have no criminal history and be able to provide current police and court clearance, must be able to obtain health certificate, must be able to work lawfully in the CNMI, must have reliable transportation to and from the places of work, and must agree to a drug test. Please email complete resume to Seanfrink@gmail.com by August 30, 2013.

L&T Group of Companies, Ltd. is inviting qualified individuals to apply for the following position:

General Maintenance Worker

High school diploma or equivalent with at least 3 years experience especially in equipment and appliance repair. Must have some basic knowledge and troubleshooting experience in plumbing and electrical systems, masonry, carpentry, and other cleaning and general maintenance work inside and outside facilities. Must be able to lift and move heavy supplies and objects. Must be willing to work flexible hours.

Applications can be obtained and submitted at L&T Group of Companies, Ltd. Human Resources Office located on the 2nd Floor, JP Center Building at Beach Road, Garapan. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience. To be considered, applications must be submitted no later than 5:00pm, Thursday, August 28, 2014.

L&T Group of Companies, Ltd. is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Qualified women, minorities and disabled persons are encouraged to apply.



COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950
Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@ptic.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT # 03-2014

Opening date: August 12, 2014

Closing date: September 02, 2014

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) announces the following job vacancy:

Position:

- (1) Custodial-I (Saipan)
- (1) Terminal Maintenance-I (Saipan)
- (1) BHS Technician-(Saipan)

Employment Application must be accompanied with a copy of all required diploma/certificates and/or official transcripts, original copy of recent police record not more than six (6) months old, original copy of U.S. Department of Defense Form DD214 for retired members or veterans of our Armed Forces, and other documents as required for the position. Public Law 11-70 requires that all male applicants age 18 to 25 years old must submit documentation evidencing his registration with the Federal Selective Service System. All applications and required documents must be submitted to the CPA Administration Office, 2nd Floor Arrival Building, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport. Failure to provide any of the required documents may result in automatic disqualification. Certain vacancies may require written and/or physical test. Selected applicants will be subjected to pre-employment drug screening. CPA reserves the right to waive or implement other qualifications to meet its needs. The deadline for submission of applications and required documents is no later than **4:30 p.m., Tuesday, September 02, 2014.**

Detailed information on qualifications and position description for the above positions shall be picked up along with the application form during regular working hours at the CPA's Administration Office (2nd Floor) of the Saipan International Airport, Arrival Wing. For more information, please contact the CPA HR Administrator Ms. Rita Omar, by email at rita.omar@cpa.gov.mp or by phone at (670) 237-6500.

CPA is an Equal Opportunity Employer and CPA hires those who are legally entitled to employment in the CNMI.

/s/ MaryAnn Q. Lizama
Executive Director

Consular Office of Japan

has an opening for a

CLERK

Qualification:

- US Citizen
- Fluent in English both orally and in writing
- CNMI Driver's License

Working Hours:

08:30 to 17:00 Mon-Fri

Starting Date:

Beginning of October, 2014

Please submit a resume to our Office by e-mail or hand deliver before September 5, 2014

Contact:

Consular Office of Japan
2nd Floor of Bank of Hawaii
BLDG, Puerto Rico
Tel: 323-7202
e-mail: cojsg@ag.mofa.go.jp

Opinion

Hafa Adair

Saipan Tribune

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The Gaza problem can be solved

One of the remarkable aspects of the war between Israel and Hamas and other Palestinian extremist groups in Gaza has been the degree to which Israelis stood together in almost complete consensus about the rightness of their country's cause.

It's not surprising to see a rally-around-the-flag effect during a time of war, but the numbers are particularly noteworthy for a state like Israel. Roughly 9 in 10 Israeli Jews remained solidly convinced that the country had no real alternative but to take on Hamas to stop its relentless barrages of rockets, destroy its missile launchers, disable its arsenal of projectiles and blow up the growing network of tunnels it built for attacking Israel.

That extent of unity is not just unusual, it is significant and it presents a unique potential opportunity for meaningful change.

Israelis are notoriously opinionated. There are countless jokes whose punch line translates to "get two Israelis, you'll get three opinions." Israelis divide their political loyalties between so many political parties that no party ever wins an electoral majority and coalitions of strange bedfellows are always at risk of collapse. Prime ministers have to watch their every move, lest they anger one of the partners and unravel the coalition they have to knit in order to govern, a required majority of 61 seats out of 120 in the Knesset, Israel's parliament.

The normal condition of the Israeli public is not one of lemming-like support for their leaders and their decisions. That's why the depth of support for taking on Hamas signifies an opportunity for Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

Even the greatest icons of the peace movement, of the Israeli left, supported the operation. The revered Amoz Oz told a German reporter, "What would you do if your neighbor across the street sits down on the balcony, puts his little boy on his lap and starts shooting machine gun fire into your nursery . . . digs a tunnel from his nursery . . . to blow up your home . . . kidnap your family?"

Israel won a tactical victory in Gaza. No reasonable observer would argue that Hamas achieved anything other than propaganda points, and even that is mostly on the international stage.

The Arab public and even many Palestinians are sickened with Hamas for what it unleashed, even their hatred for Israel has been rekindled in the hyper-publicized carnage of war.

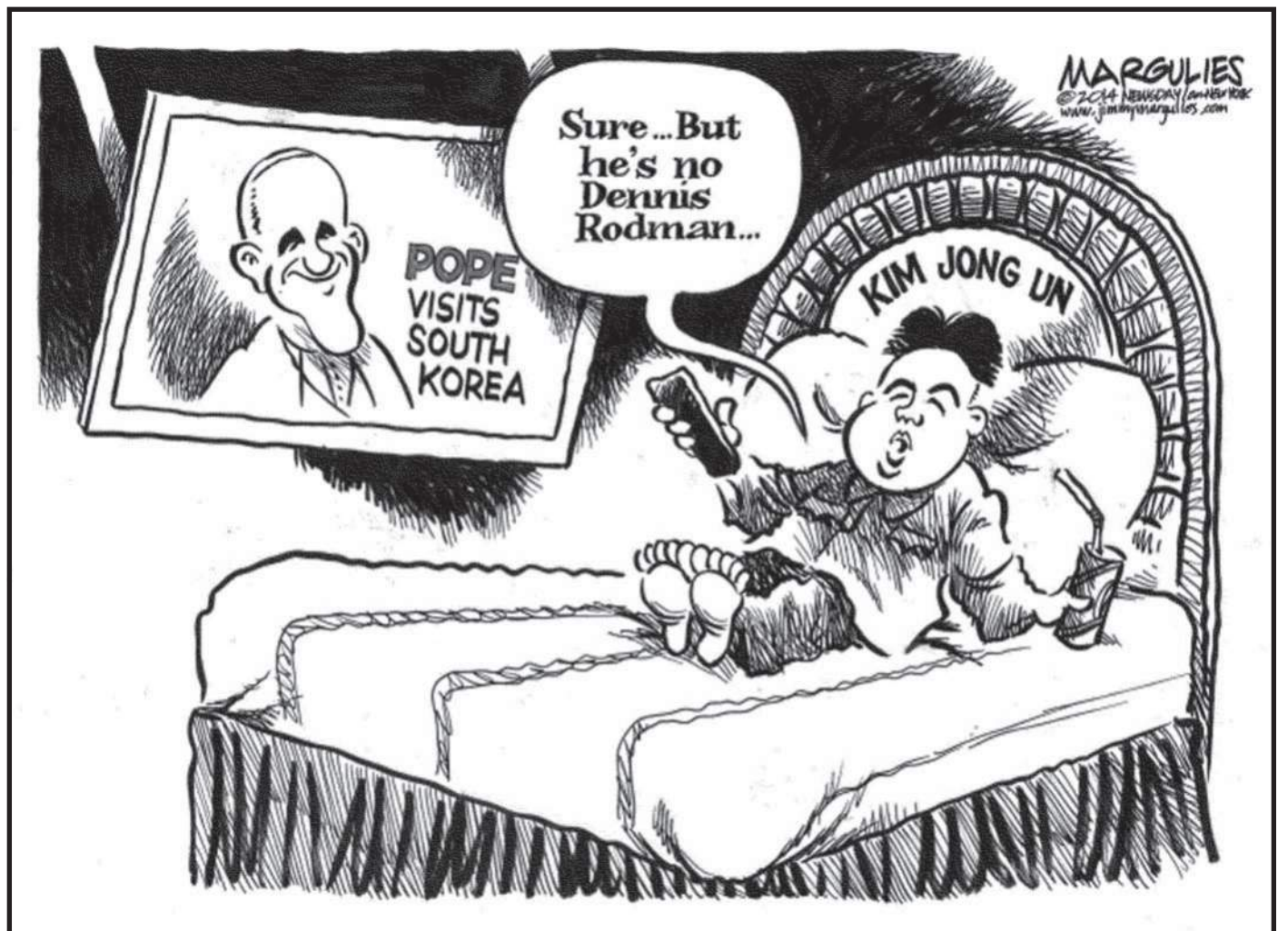
Israel, for its part, has significantly reduced Hamas' capabilities, at a high cost in its international standing. Israel lost scores of soldiers and a few civilians. The country is safer for now. But no problem has been solved, only postponed.

The question is, What now? Will the war end with a pause that is again broken in a few months or years with another awful bout of anguish and death?

The Gaza conundrum is not unsolvable.

Hamas demands an opening of the borders, which Israel cannot do, especially after confirming that practically all the

See GAZA on Page 11



Quakes and fire, drought and water

When mapping the consequences of quakes and droughts, floods and fires, the human cost has become a must. When we promote the perspective of viewing everyone as individuals rather than just a numerical entry in a group, the value of an individual becomes paramount. This runs counter to the virtue long held in social groups that one's life laid down for a race or an ethnic bunch is more heroic than just the mere expenditure of the same sometimes on behalf of another.

I happen to think that an individual is not filled full save in the company of and in collaboration with peers but that is a choice rather than the moral imperative of an ethical ought-ness. Likewise, in mapping out the human cost, whether it is the personnel-inflicted conflagrations in Gaza, Iraq, and Ukraine, it is helpful to imagine not an abstract number but snuffed lives or living casualties often pictured short of limbs. They have a face, and definitely, a name.

Increasingly, in covering disasters on TV, the human factor is often covered if only because a broadcast watcher can readily identify with a person rather than an abstract number. Admittedly, we get irritated when the newscaster injects through the tone of his/her voice what ze feels as an emotional response to an event rather than the content of the news through pictures and sounds that establish emotive content itself. But that's what distinguishes professional broadcast journalism from its dime-a-dozen cousins that relies on tugging at our sentiments.

Quakes that drew fire visited Yunnan Province last week where a shudder that otherwise would only get a shrug of the shoulder managed to dislodge rocks and caused landslide of uncharacteristic proportions that the area in Ladian is still reeling from the rocks that was not confined to the cradle. We do not mean to make light of the disaster. Chinese workers are still trying to create water drainage for a river that has since become a lake, threatening residents downriver should the water level rise some more as rain has yet to abate from the headwaters.

The landslides were bad enough. The flooding added to the destruction of crops, penned animals, and homes. Neighboring province to Yunnan, Guizhou of the Yi minority tribes that might be cousins to our Philippine mountain folks got the brunt of the unceasing rain and caused flooding where ladies used to walk down the lanes with parasols. Guangxi where Guillin with her famous kartz and Lijiang that rafts down to tourist town Yangzhou nestled in lighted hills at night (quite a spectacle), and Hainan with her tropical shores had not been spared the fierce treatment of typhoons.

Drought hit the foothills of California and Colorado, as well as Canada's Northwest territories that lit up fires for our satellites to picture. We all heard of that explosion out of Kunshan in

By **JAIME VERGARA**
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Jaime Vergara previously taught at SVES in the CNMI. A peripatetic pedagogue, he last taught in China but makes Honolulu, Shenyang, and Saipan home. He can be reached at pinoypanda2031@aol.com.



Jiangxi (that's west of Shanghai for the geography-challenged) from a factory manufacturing aluminum wheel caps for General Motors.

From the northeast to the northwest, all we got were dry winds this season. Qui Tian (autumn) kicked in August 11 and though dusk to dawn might feel a little cooler, the days are still summer warm. The aridity has been exceptional this year, making the sigua (watermelon) an abundant and desired commodity in every street corner, from Urmuqi of Xinjiang to Dandong of Liaoning. It has the added attraction of being an aphrodisiac!

We had a 30-minute drench in Shenyang the other day, with the full compliment of accompanying thunder and lightning playing loud orchestral percussion, plus a downpour that lashed and peppered car roofs. One can tell the plastic touch is in the drainage as something clogged up the system again; one of the streets at my back in a fairly elevated area of the city was flooded from the accumulated rain.

The environmental disasters that have been visited upon China since it became the manufacturing factory of the world are considerable. The cheapening of American consumer goods has also occurred as the timeframe for programmed obsolescence got shorter, and price became the gauge for commodities rather than quality. Only the one percent of the U.S. population shop from quality shops; the rest of us go for the bargain, the discount, and the sale.

We pointed recently on the reality of trash and how China is no longer Los Angeles and Brooklyn's trash bins. Worldwide, we have polluted our planet, so there is no point belaboring the point, nor pointing fingers on who is to blame. No one has pristine hands!

What China, however, is doing in its China Dream that has become the organizing principle of its internal and external affairs (can't help point to Obama's foreign policy description of "Don't do stupid stuff" as inadequate, according to Madame Hillary), is to shift from producing products "Made in China" to ones that it designs so it can be labeled as "Created in China".

The rhetoric is ahead of the reality but Zhongguo has the time!

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

National Dysfunction

National delusion, dysfunction and paralysis have descended in both the NMI and Washington. Despicably discouraging the prominent placement of politics over the long-term interest of “we the people”.

Gridlock has been cemented in real time nihilism! Interesting the callousness in the prism of politicians who care less about the destruction and hardship such behavior imposes on the multitude!

The border crisis has derailed the country piled by threats of Ebola and the likely long war with Islamic insurgents. This while Mr. O chases down a small white ball at Martha’s Vineyard. Why is the strongest man on the planet fearful of providing real leadership? The Iraq situation remains savagery!

Like in the islands, the economy is a total disaster but policymakers have placed greater importance prohibiting drying panties on clothesline in Garapan and regulating cockfights as though these are the most pressing issues of the multitude. Percipency? Vision? Hell, even B&W television would do!

Though his approval rating is at its lowest it seems somewhat appallingly inconsequential. Perhaps the disengagement is lodged in the belief that he isn’t running for office anymore. So why worry, be happy, another vacuous disengaged or bully pulpit speech ought to do the job NOT!

Obama has become a study unto himself. The stunning disengagement seems a conscious tool he employs to change capitalism so it conforms to his definition of social justice. He wants to tax the rich to the hilt to meet his redistributionist policy. But then what happens if the number keeps contracting? Who is going to pay for his ill-conceived redistributionist policy? Moreover, did he forget that we’ve been here refining our democratic institutions for 236 years now?

It appears too that his liberal advisors have taken a train ride push-

ing their agenda mindless of the destruction it imposes against the entire country. He’s gone after the rich and has forced what’s known as “inversion” where the wealthiest of Corporate America move offshore to avoid heavy corporate taxes. And Obama still wants to go after these folks though they’ve paid more than their share of dues.

Lofty speeches isn’t going to fix the disengagement that is found in your persona, Mr. O. Remember the “you can keep your doctor” bit that became the “Lie of 2013” after the failed rollout? He doubles down stretching the boundaries of his authority knowing the U.S. Congress isn’t going after him in any credible manner.

Speaker John Boehner (R-Ohio) blasted President Obama’s domestic and foreign policies in a recent radio interview, saying Obama was “not prepared for the job.”

“While the president thinks that giving a speech is leadership, it really isn’t,” Boehner told Scott Hennen of KTGO in North Dakota.

Boehner, who’s in the middle of a multi-state bus tour appearing at events for members and candidates, said the president’s policies have not worked, but “he won’t admit that.”

He said people still asking, “Where are the jobs?”

Reining-in Investments

The contraction of revenue generation has nosedived from a robust \$256 million annually two decades ago to \$135 million today. It’s a negative shift drained by the exodus of investments here in recent past. In other words, key players simply took a permanent walk with their luggage and never even look back.

Appalling that investment exodus didn’t seem to bother leadership who stood by dumbfounded as though quietly hoping for miracles from unheard of mansions in the universe. It had no inkling that the exit of major investments would be catastrophically devastating.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Interfering with Rota Liaison Medical Referral Office

It is very mind-boggling how the resident director of Finance Rota, Mrs. Stacy Atalig, interferes with the Rota Liaison Medical Referral.

To my understanding the Rota Liaison on Saipan falls directly under the office of the mayor. Its function entails providing compassionate and comprehensive services and the best care to patients and their families who are either temporarily displace due to illness and or permanently being treated for terminal illness or routine doctor’s check up.

Therefore, with this office being established on Saipan I am pretty sure it has its organizational structure to include a supervisor all the way down to service providers. I wonder if Stacy is empowered to do both, if not I suggest that she stick her nose where it belongs, otherwise the patients will die of Stacy syndrome.

I implore on Mayor Mendiola to rectify this problem before someone gets sued. Please don’t play politics on our patients. By the way, thank you Tinian liaison for the courtesy you have accorded us Rota patients and escorts.

Garren M. Quitugua

Igua, Rota

Old ways won’t cut it anymore

Your grandma grew up when it was necessary for her to remember all your relatives because many of their parents didn’t have or keep good records. Today, grandma might be able to name your 137 relatives but can’t find YouTube or FB on the Internet, if she even knows what it is. It’s 2014 and grandmas all over the world know, and they are better informed than your grandma.

Since you aren’t learning about the Internet from your grandma and you aren’t learning about the Internet from PSS, you are screwed out of 99.999 percent of all knowledge, and of everything going on in this world. Caprice?

Your grandma has more in common with women in Afghanistan than they do with women in Guam. And, to you women of the CNMI, I know you love your kids but the “old ways” just won’t cut it anymore. You need to march. March like you did in ’84. Only this time march to demand the entire PSS board of education resign along with the commissioner of education.

Galvin Guerrero should be commissioner. YouTube Galvin Guerrero and Rita Sablan and it is very evident why I make this statement. The rest of you women in the CNMI need to take charge. Your “men folk” have messed this place up for 36 years already. Your kids’ future is at stake and if things don’t change real fast, your kids will end up in Texas or Washington, like at least half of all your relatives already are.

You are leaving the 50 rich people here to plunder at will. You need to educate yourselves and the Internet can do it. Do not vote GOP or Democrat, and, don’t vote for any representative or senator that won’t tell you in writing what he promises to do for all the people of the CNMI. Try to keep in mind that there are lots of “women” that live here that aren’t Chamorro and they have kids, just like you do, that they also love and want the best future for. This year’s election is the most important in your 40 year history, don’t make the wrong choice just because “he” tells you who to vote for. You have a mind of your own, please use it.

Gary DuBrall

Chalan Piao

GAZA

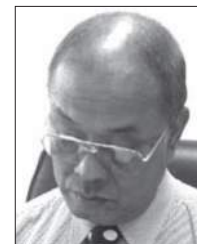
From Page 10

cement that crosses the border, to list just one item, has gone to build tunnels aimed at attacking and killing Israelis, rather than towards building homes for the people of Gaza. Hamas remains firmly committed to its aim of destroying Israel. Israel cannot make a deal that hands Hamas a major victory. That would strengthen its position relative to its more moderate Palestinian rivals.

The answer is to begin the process of transferring responsibility

By **JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.**

Special to the Saipan Tribune



John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands.

It’s the prize of ignorance piled by local arrogance as the floodgates of disinvestment flung wide open. We never even retreated to reassess the dire consequences of investment exodus. It seems it was just another day at the beach. Or could it be the usual stifling disengagement gift-wrapped in the lack of a comprehensive set of plans?

And now there’s a reduction in flight services even out of Japan. Isn’t tourism the sole pillar of the local economy? Do we massage it singing “You Are My Sunshine?”

Since then the economy spiraled downwards even to this day and we still aren’t sure if we’ve hit rock bottom or just where are we in this mess. As we applaud tourism recovery the airline service took a beating with a projected loss of some \$35 million. This setback places investments on the wings in “wait and see” mode given the obvious lack of funds to meet the emplacement of more basic infrastructure of water, power, sewer, and roads.

Wagon of Hope Dislodged

Our Wagon of Hope has careened fatally off the main road while our horses headed elsewhere! What about the future of our children and of these isles? Is there anyone in government with conscientious leadership capable of navigating the islands out of its persistent fiscal crisis? Why must we consistently employ dystopian mañana?

The economy taking a steady downward spiral since recent past matters to me. Troubling that I seem to be the lone wolf in the meadows howling of thirst and hunger for something better than ignorance or the obvious lack of conscientious leadership. Here we are today with heads still buried in the sand confused whether the filthy dirt with our faces in it is up. Is it?

More Deterrents

The elected elite mouth-off “economic recovery” as though it’s a new fad or a good chance to sound intellectual. Sorry, not impressed at all!

Intellectuals are a highly respectful bunch that articulate issues thoroughly equipped with the wherewithal to do so. If you don’t have it please don’t chance it. Save yourself the humiliation!

You wonder if policymakers here ever read materials or mega-analysis what states in the union have done to lure investments to their side of the country. Or have we done anything up that alley? I mean what’s up your sleeves based on a set of plans for real time economic recovery other than empty spouts that don’t make sense at all?

for Gaza and its borders to the Palestinian Authority with strong support from Egypt (which despises Hamas) particularly on borders, and intelligence backing on security matters from Israel and Egypt.

There is a way for Hamas to lose and the people of Gaza and Israel to win.

The far right in Israel won’t want to see the PA strengthened, but that is where Netanyahu can leverage the consensus that emerged during the fighting in Gaza. My view is that this war has made Israelis more hawkish but less ideological. This is an opening for pragmatist security hardliners. That’s Netanyahu.






To really win this war — which is, to win peace, what Israelis really want — requires reengaging with the Palestinian Authority and finding a security formula that works in Gaza. That could help develop a strategy for the West Bank, which ultimately is the only way to reach a lasting solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

No, it’s not easy. And, yes, it is risky. But this is a unique moment in history that could be molded into a turning point. The bombs have carved a small fork in the road. The new path may just lead to a more peaceful, hopeful and secure place.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
				
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Light and variable winds.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. Light and variable winds.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°

Micronesia

Guam And Rota	Thunderstorms	▲84 ▼77
Palau	Thunderstorms	▲81 ▼79
Yap	Thunderstorms	▲82 ▼79
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲82 ▼79
Pohnpei	Partly Cloudy	▲82 ▼80
Kosrae	Partly Cloudy	▲82 ▼80
Majuro	Thunderstorms	▲83 ▼81

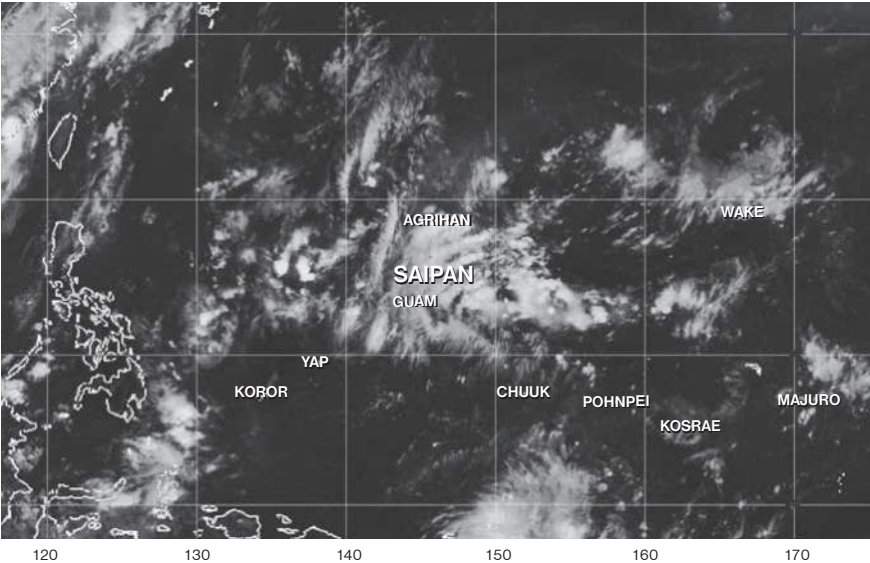
Around The Globe

Auckland	Thunderstorms	▲61 ▼53
Beijing	Sunny	▲93 ▼72
Hong Kong	Thunderstorms	▲84 ▼78
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	▲86 ▼74
London	Mostly Sunny	▲67 ▼49
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	▲84 ▼62
Manila	Thunderstorms	▲92 ▼76
Melbourne	Mostly Sunny	▲58 ▼38
Miami	Thundershowers	▲90 ▼79
New York	Mostly Sunny	▲79 ▼66
Osaka	Mostly Sunny	▲90 ▼75
Paris	Partly Cloudy	▲68 ▼48
Pusan	Thunderstorms	▲78 ▼73
Rome	Mostly Sunny	▲89 ▼71
Salem	Mostly Sunny	▲85 ▼54
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	▲65 ▼58
Seoul	Cloudy	▲82 ▼70
Tokyo	Sunny	▲92 ▼77
Washington, DC	Partly Cloudy	▲84 ▼69

Tides

Saipan Harbor			
3:32 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.7 Feet
11:13 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.1 Feet
6:31 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.6 Feet
11:29 PM	Today	Low Tide:	1.2 Feet

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, TUESDAY, AUGUST 19, 2014

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A surface trough extends north-northeastward from 15N134E to beyond 25N at 137E. Isolated thunderstorms are seen between the Marianas and Okinawa within 100 miles of a line from 12N132E to 25N137E. Convergent low-level winds are generating scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms southwest of Koror or west of a line from 9N132E to EQ132E. Similar weather is taking place south of Chuuk and Pohnpei or south of a line from 2N151E to 2N159E. An upper-level trough curves west-southwestward from 25N171E through lows centered north-northeast of Wake Island near 24N168E and east of the Marianas at 12N156E to end at 18N142E. Isolated thunderstorms are occurring over a large area which lies north of Yap, Chuuk, Pohnpei and Kwajalein in an area bounded by a line from 13N135E to 12N168E to 25N144E back to 13N135E. Isolated thunderstorms are also found just north of Wake Island within 125 miles of a line from 24N161E to 21N169E. Trade-wind convergence is causing scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms over the Marshall Islands within 100 miles of a line from 9N173E to 7N178E.

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:03 AM	6:38 PM
Thursday	6:03 AM	6:37 PM
Friday	6:03 AM	6:36 PM
Saturday	6:04 AM	6:36 PM
Sunday	6:04 AM	6:35 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	1:28 AM	2:35 PM
Thursday	2:17 AM	3:23 PM
Friday	3:06 AM	4:08 PM
Saturday	3:55 AM	4:51 PM
Sunday	4:43 AM	5:32 PM

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMUT SARI Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.

CAMPUS BULLETIN

Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

the name of contact person, and a phone number.

- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

HOW TO SUBMIT

- E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com or jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com.
 - Fax: (670) 235-3740
 - Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
 - Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
- To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

POLICY

- The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.
- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

CUSTOMER SERVICE For inquiries, purchase of back issues and complaints, call (670) 235-8747, 235-2440, fax 235-3740.

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ADVERTISING For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JULY 28, 2014

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA5070	4:15am	5:05am	Daily	UA5069	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA5068	8:00am	8:50am	3	UA5071	6:40am	7:30am	3
UA5068	8:40am	9:30am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7	UA5071	7:15am	8:05am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7
UA5039	2:30pm	4:10pm	6, 7 via Rota	UA5039	1:10pm	2:00pm	6, 7
UA5078	3:20pm	4:10pm	1, 5	UA5038	1:10pm	2:50pm	2, 4 via Rota
UA5038	3:20pm	4:10pm	2, 4	UA5077	2:00pm	2:50pm	1, 5
UA5040	7:05pm	7:55pm	1, 5	UA5041	5:45pm	6:35pm	1, 5
UA5078	8:35pm	9:25pm	2, 3, 4, 6, 7	UA5077	7:15pm	8:05pm	2, 3, 4, 6, 7
UA5044	10:50pm	11:40pm	1, 5	UA5043	9:30pm	10:20pm	1, 5
SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)				GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)			
UA5039	2:30pm	3:05pm	6, 7	UA5038	1:10pm	1:45pm	2, 4
ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)				ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN			
UA5039	3:35pm	4:10pm	6, 7	UA5038	2:15pm	2:50pm	2, 4
SAIPAN-PALAU (ROR)				PALAU (ROR)-SAIPAN			
DL287	6:05am	11:15pm	2, 4, 6 via NRT	DL298	4:30am	3:00pm	3, 5, 7 via NRT
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)				NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
DL287	6:05am	8:35am	1, 4, 5, 6	DL298	10:25am	3:00pm	Daily
DL297	4:35pm	7:15pm	Daily	DL288	8:55pm	1:25am+1	3, 4, 5, 7
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)				SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
OZ606	2:20am	6:00am	1	OZ603	8:50am	2:20pm	Daily
OZ606	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	OZ605	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ604	3:30pm	6:55pm	Daily	OZ605	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)				BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7	OZ607	9:05pm	1:55am+1	3, 6
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)				SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
MU7076	4:15am	6:50am	2, 6	MU7075	9:00pm	3:15am+1	1, 5
3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7	3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)				BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN			
MU764A	3:30am	7:30am	4, 7	MU763A	7:25pm	2:30am+1	3, 6
MU764	4:00am	8:00am	1, 5	MU763	7:55pm	3:00am+1	4, 7
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)				GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6	3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
OZ606/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN	OZ704/603	12:10am	2:20pm	1, 3, 5, 7 via ICN
OZ606/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	DL172/288	7:55am	1:25am+1	3, 4, 5, 7 via NRT
UA5070/191	4:15am	8:55am	3, 6, 7 via GUM	UA190/5077	9:55am	8:05pm	3, 6, 7 via GUM
UA5070/183	4:15am	8:45pm	2, 5 via GUM	OZ702/605	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
UA5070/183	4:15am	9:10pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM	OZ702/605	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
DL287/473	6:05am	9:45pm	1, 4, 5, 6 via NRT	UA184/5071	10:25pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA5068/183	8:00am	9:10pm	3 via GUM	UA184/5039	10:25pm	2:00pm+1	6 via GUM
UA5039/183	2:30pm	9:10pm	6, 7 via Rota-GUM	UA184/5038	10:25pm	2:50pm+1	1, 3 via GUM-Rota
UA5038/183	3:20pm	8:45pm	2 via GUM	UA184/5077	10:25pm	2:50pm+1	4, 7 via GUM-Rota
UA5078/183	3:20pm	8:45pm	5 via GUM	UA184/5041	10:25pm	6:35pm+1	4, 7 via GUM-Rota
UA5078/183	3:20pm	9:10pm	1 via GUM	UA184/5077	10:25pm	8:05pm+1	1, 3, 6 via GUM
UA5038/183	3:20pm	9:10pm	4 via GUM	UA184/5043	10:25pm	10:20pm+1	4, 7 via GUM
OZ604/703	3:30pm	10:45pm	1, 3, 5, 7 via ICN	UA184/5071	11:30pm	7:30am+1	2 via GUM
				UA184/5071	11:30pm	8:05am+1	5 via GUM
				UA184/5039	11:30pm	2:00pm+1	5 via GUM
				UA184/5077	11:30pm	8:05pm+1	2, 5 via GUM
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)				HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN			
OZ606/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN	OZ746/603	12:30am	2:20pm	1, 3, 5, 7 via ICN
OZ606/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	OZ722/605	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
UA5068/179	8:00am	9:55pm	3 via GUM	OZ722/605	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA5068/179	8:40am	9:55pm	1, 5, 6 via GUM	D28008	6:05pm	1:20am+1	Aug 5, 10, 14, 19, 24, 28
D2 8009	12:50pm	4:05pm	Aug 5, 10, 14, 19, 24, 28	UA180/5071	9:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
UA5039/179	2:30pm	9:55pm	6 via Rota-GUM	UA180/5039	9:55pm	2:00pm+1	5, 6 via GUM
UA5078/179	3:20pm	9:55pm	1, 5 via GUM	UA180/5038	9:55pm	2:50pm+1	1, 3 via GUM-Rota
OZ604/749	3:30pm	11:00pm	1, 3, 5, 7 via ICN	UA180/5077	9:55pm	8:05pm+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; VLK: Vladivostok Air; SYL: Yakutia Air; D: Dynamic Airways; ORB: OREN AIR; D2: Dynamic Air

ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

9th Circuit Court of Appeals schedules special sitting in Guam

SAN FRANCISCO—The United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit has scheduled a special session next week in the U.S. Territory of Guam.

The court will hear oral arguments on August 27, 2014, at the U.S. District Court in Hagåtña. The proceedings will begin at 10am in the 4th floor courtroom of the federal courthouse, 520 West Soledad Avenue. A photo ID will be required for access to

proceedings.

A three-judge panel consisting of Ninth Circuit Chief Judge Alex Kozinski of Pasadena, California, Senior Circuit Judge Mary M. Schroeder of Phoenix, and Circuit Judge N. Randy Smith of Pocatello, Idaho, will consider appeals of decisions by the U.S. district courts for the districts of Guam and Northern Mariana Islands. Cases on the docket are:

■ *United States v. Diaz* in which Melvin Diaz appeals his jury conviction and sentence for traveling with intent to engage in sexual activity with a minor. Case 12-10579

■ *Davis v. Guam* in which Arnold Davis, on behalf of himself and all others similarly situated, appeals from the Guam district court's dismissal of his action alleging discrimination in the voting process by Guam and by Guam officials in violation of the

Voting Rights Act of 1965. Case 13-15199

■ *Guam Industrial Services v. Zurich American Insurance Company* in which Guam Industrial Services, Inc., appeals the Guam district court's judgment in favor of Zurich

American Insurance Company and Starr Indemnity and Liability Company in Guam's insurance coverage action arising from the sinking of a drydock it owned. Case 13-17005

After the hearings, the panel will meet informally with officials from the Guam Bar Association and other local attorneys. The panel also will meet informally with presenters of the upcoming 2014 Guam District Conference which will be held Aug. 28 at the Hilton in Tumon Bay.

The Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals hears appeals of cases decided by executive branch agencies and federal trial

courts in nine western states, the U.S. Territory of Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The court normally meets monthly in Seattle, San Francisco and Pasadena, California; every other month in Portland, Oregon; three times per year in Honolulu, Hawaii; and twice a year in Anchorage, Alaska. A complete schedule of cases is available online at <http://www.ca9.uscourts.gov>. (PR)

Groundbreaking for Guam National Guard's newest facility

The Guam National Guard will continue to grow its facilities when it breaks ground on its newest multi-million dollar building during a ceremony on Thursday, Aug. 21, at 10am at the Barrigada Readiness Center.

The contract for the \$7.35-million facility was awarded by the Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) Marianas to P&S Construction, Inc., in September 2013 for the design and construction of an Assembly Hall with an expected completion date of April 2015.

The facility's foremost function is to provide a venue for assembly of several units for the GUARNG for a variety of purposes. A few of these functions are processing soldiers for deployment, training, briefings, and ceremonies that require a large number of people gathered.

The project is to construct a single story Assembly Hall facility for units within the Guam Army National Guard (GUARNG). The facility will have a total maximum authorized gross floor area of 14,406 square feet and includes space



A concept drawing of the Guam National Guard's Assembly Hall that will break ground this Thursday.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

for the Family Assistance Center and Pass and ID Center.

The project integrates sustainable strategies and features

which will minimize energy consumption and conserve resources; minimize adverse effects to the environment; and

improve occupant productivity, health and comfort as well as reduce the total cost of ownership of the project using a whole

building, life-cycle approach.

The Assembly Hall is the second Guam National Guard facility to meet the U.S. Green Building

Council (USGBC) Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design-New Construction (LEED-NC) Silver rating. (PR)

Sunken vessel is World War II-era USS *Houston*

PEARL HARBOR, Hawaii (AP)—Navy divers from the U.S. and Indonesia confirmed that a sunken vessel in the Java Sea is the World War II wreck of the USS *Houston*, a cruiser sunk by the Japanese that serves as the final resting place for about 700 sailors and Marines, officials announced Monday.

The Japanese sank the *Houston* during the Battle of Sunda Strait on Feb. 28, 1942. The ship carried 1,068 crewmen, but only 291 sailors and Marines survived both the attack and being prisoners of war. The *Houston's* commanding officer, Capt. Albert H. Rooks, posthumously received the Medal of Honor for extraordinary heroism.

U.S. Pacific Fleet commander Adm. Harry Harris said Monday that divers have documented evidence the watery gravesite has been disturbed.

Assessments conducted in June to determine the condition of the *Houston* found that hull

riplets, a metal plate and unexploded ordnance were removed from the ship. There is also oil actively seeping from the hull.

Officials are working on measures to keep the site from further disturbance.

"In my discussions with our Indonesian navy partners, they share our sense of obligation to protect this and other gravesites," Harris said in a statement. "Surveying the site, of course was only the first step in partnering to respect those sailors who made the ultimate sacrifice to ensure the freedoms and security that we richly enjoy today."

The Navy History and Heritage Command concluded that all of the recorded data is consistent with the identification of the former USS *Houston*.

The *Houston* was nicknamed the "The Galloping Ghost of the Java Coast." Resting off the west coast of Java, Indonesia, the ship, which remains sovereign property of the United

States, is a popular recreational dive site, the Navy said.

The Navy estimates there are

more than 17,000 sunken ships and aircraft resting on the ocean floor worldwide.



In this undated photo made available by the Ocean Exploration Trust shows a sunken vessel in the Gulf of Mexico. The U.S. vessel was sunk by a German submarine during World War II.

Respicio to election commission: Protect in-office ballots

Guam Sen. Rory J. Respicio sent a follow-up letter to the Guam Election Commission (GEC) requesting that they provide an update on its procedures to ensure that the in-office ballots for the upcoming election are protected and tamper-proof.

Respicio is the chairman of the Committee on Rules; Federal, Foreign & Micronesian Affairs; Human & Natural Resources; and Election Reform. He wrote a letter on Aug. 4, 2014 to GEC executive director Maria Pangelinan expressing his concerns, and requesting an update on the commission's procedures regarding the in-office ballots.

Respicio sent a follow up letter this morning requesting Pangelinan to respond to his concerns as chairman with oversight on Guam elections.

"I am sure you share my concerns that we have to assure the public that the election process remains free and fair, as a result of the considerable amount of controversy relative to the security and sanctity of the ballots surrounding the 2010 General Election," Respicio said. "Specifically, the almost 4,000 early voting or in-office ballots remain questionable, as even post audits conducted by GEC revealed that there were no internal controls to securing these ballots, as well as GEC's inability to account for how many ballots were actually printed for the 2010 General Election." In the letter, Respicio noted, "I continue to express my sincere concern that all election laws be followed and that that

there is proper accountability in this process." (PR)

Business

FHB report shows Saipan sales volume up 11.39 pct

First Hawaiian Bank's second quarter 2014 Business Activity Report (BAR) for Saipan showed an 11.39-percent increase for "same store sales" over 2013, according to Laura Dacanay, First Hawaiian Bank senior vice president and CNMI Region Manager.

"Our Saipan BAR showed a second quarter credit and debit sales transactions increase of

11.39 percent, building on the first quarter's momentum. This is the 11th consecutive quarter of positive growth," said Dacanay. "Nine of the 11 sectors posted double-digit increases with Home Improvement, up 33.76 percent, leading the way. This is the third time Home Improvement has made the top of the list. These are good indications that consumer confidence



First Hawaiian Bank

continues to grow which is helping to stimulate the economy." The BAR tracks card sales activity in 11 different economic sectors including retail, hotels, home improvement, res-

taurants, shipping and travel activities, among other categories. First Hawaiian's Saipan BAR provides a broad measure of economic activity.

First Hawaiian is a major card

processor of debit and credit sales transactions. In 2013, the bank processed over \$4.4 billion worth of credit and debit sales transactions. The bank provides merchant services to nearly 7,000 First Hawaiian Bank merchant locations throughout Hawaii, Guam, CNMI and the U.S. Mainland.

First Hawaiian Bank (fhb.com) with assets of \$17.5 billion was founded in 1858 and has been serving the CNMI region for over 16 years. The bank processes all major U.S. credit cards as well as JCB, China Union Pay, and BC Global Card. **(FHB)**

» 9 out of 11 sectors show positive growth

McDonald's confronts its junk food image

NEW YORK (AP)—At a dinner McDonald's hosted for reporters and bloggers, waiters served cuisine prepared by celebrity chefs using ingredients from the chain's menu.

A Kung Pao chicken appetizer was made with Chicken McNuggets doused in sweet and sour sauce and garnished with parsley. Slow-cooked beef was served with gnocchi fashioned out of McDonald's french fries and a fruit sauce from its smoothie mix. For dessert, its biscuit mix was used to make a pumpkin spice "biznut," a biscuit-doughnut hybrid.

The event, held in New York City's Tribeca neighborhood, was billed "A transforming dining experience of 'fast food' to 'good food served fast.'" Attendees tweeted out photos and the night was written up on various websites.

The dishes aren't intended for McDonald's restaurants. Instead, the evening is part of a campaign by McDonald's to shake its reputation for serving cheap, unhealthy food. At a time when Americans are playing closer attention to what they eat, the company is trying to sway public opinion by first reaching



In this Jan. 26, 2009 file photo, McDonald's employee Cortney Sobowiec hands a patron a salad at the drive up window at McDonald's in Williamsville, N.Y. McDonald's understands its reputation for serving cheap, greasy fare is a growing liability and is trying to change in a variety of ways.

out to the reporters, bloggers and other so-called "influencers" who write and speak about McDonald's.

It's just one way McDonald's is trying to change its image. In the past 18 months, the chain has introduced the option to substitute egg whites in breakfast sandwiches and rolled out

chicken wraps as its first menu item with cucumbers. Last fall, it announced plans to give people the choice of a salad instead of fries in combo meals. And in coming months, mandarin oranges will be offered in Happy Meals, with other fruits being explored as well.

McDonald's declined to

make an executive available for this story, but CEO Don Thompson said early this year: "We've got to make sure that the food is relevant and that the awareness around McDonald's as a kitchen and a restaurant that cooks and prepares fresh, high quality food is strong and pronounced."

Google's pivotal IPO launched a decade of big bets

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—Google's IPO, a decade ago this week, launched the company on a trajectory that continues to reshape its business and much of the world in its orbit.

And CEO Larry Page is determined to push even further.

Page's vision is that Google's products and services will become the control center of people's lives: The company's driverless cars will chauffeur people around safer roads and deliver goods within hours of an online order. People won't even have to bother leaving their homes, which will be made more comfortable and enjoyable through the use of smart appliances. Robots will handle tedious chores and other jobs, freeing up time for people to enjoy lives prolonged by health-management tools and disease-fighting breakthroughs engineered by Google. Internet-connected eyewear and watches will supplement the smartphones that ensure Google is a constant companion capable of anticipating questions and desires.

up more than 250 companies in the past 10 years.

The ambitious expansion has extended Google's empire far beyond the influential search engine that processes more than 100 billion queries each month and still brings in most of the company's projected \$67 billion in revenue this year. Google is also a leader in email, Web browsers, Internet video and mobile computing now.

The company already has amassed so much power that it has been the subject of broad antitrust investigations in the U.S. and Europe amid allegations that it uses its size and stature to stifle competition. The Federal Trade Commission absolved Google of wrongdoing last year while the European Commission is still examining the issue.

ROCKY ROAD TO WALL STREET

When Google filed its IPO paperwork in April 2004, the iconoclasm of Page and Brin shone through the legalese and standard boilerplate language. The duo included an "owner's manual" that declared Google's intent to remain an unconventional company that pampered its employees, made risky gambles on long-term projects at the expense of short-term earnings growth and paid little heed to the unwritten Wall Street rules that prod executives to offer financial forecasts each quarter.

In another break from tradition, Page and Brin set up a bidding process known as a "Dutch auction" designed to give a larger pool of investors an opportunity to determine the IPO price and buy the stock before it began trading on Nasdaq. This differed from the usual system that depends on bankers to set the IPO price and distribute the pre-trading shares to their preferred clients, who often expected to get them at a slight discount.

USDA: Cost to raise child up slightly to \$245,340

WASHINGTON (AP)—A message for new parents: get ready for sticker shock.

A child born in 2013 will cost a middle-income American family an average of \$245,340 until he or she reaches the age of 18, with families living in the Northeast taking on a

greater burden, according to a report out Monday. And that doesn't include college - or expenses if a child lives at home after age 17.

Those costs that are included—food, housing, childcare and education—rose 1.8 percent over the previous year, the

Agriculture Department's new "Expenditures on Children and Families" report said. As in the past, families in the urban Northeast will spend more than families in the urban South and rural parts of the U.S., or roughly \$282,480.

When adjusting for projected inflation, the report found that a child born last year could cost a middle-income family an average of about \$304,480.

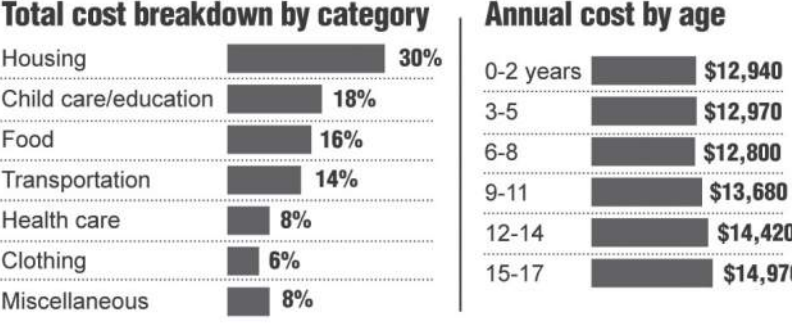
The costs associated with pregnancy or expenses accumulated after a child becomes an adult, such as college tuition, were not included.

In 1960, the first year the report was issued, a middle-income family could spend about \$25,230, equivalent to \$198,560 in 2013 dollars, to raise a child until the age of 18. Housing costs remain the greatest child-rearing expense, as they did in the 1960s, although current-day costs like childcare were negligible back then.

For middle-income families, the USDA found, housing expenses made up roughly 30 percent of the total cost of raising a child. Child care and education were the second-largest expenses, at 18 percent, followed by food at 16 percent.

Raising a child born in 2013: \$245,340

Average for younger child in middle-income, husband-wife families with two children.



Nation

Pathologist: Brown may have had his hands raised

FERGUSON, Mo. (AP)—An unarmed 18-year-old whose fatal shooting by police has sparked a week of protests in suburban St. Louis suffered a bullet wound to his right arm that may indicate his hands were up or his back was turned, a pathologist hired by his family said Monday.

But the pathologist said the team that examined Michael Brown can't be sure yet exactly how the wounds were inflicted, citing the need for more information.

An independent autopsy determined that Michael Brown

majority of protesters in Ferguson were peaceful, but warned that a small minority was undermining justice.

During a brief pause in his summer vacation, Obama said overcoming the mistrust endemic between many communities and their local police would require Americans to "listen and not just shout."

The president also weighed in for the first time publicly on the militarization of some local police departments, saying it would probably be useful to examine how federal grant dollars had been used to allow local



was shot at least six times, including twice in the head, the family's lawyers and hired pathologists said.

Witnesses have said Brown's hands were above his head when he was repeatedly shot by an officer Aug. 9 in Ferguson.

After nightfall, police and protesters were again in a tense standoff Monday as crowds filled the streets. Officers used bullhorns to order people out of the street and deployed noise-makers and armored vehicles to push demonstrators back. There were no immediate reports of violence.

In Washington, President Barack Obama said the vast ma-

police to purchase military-style equipment.

Attorney General Eric Holder was scheduled to travel to Ferguson later this week to meet with FBI and other officials carrying out an independent federal investigation into Brown's death.

Obama said he also spoke to Missouri Gov. Jay Nixon about his deployment of the National Guard in Ferguson and urged the governor to ensure the Guard was used in a limited way.

Forensic pathologist Shawn Parcells, who assisted former New York City chief medical examiner Dr. Michael Baden



AP
Aug. 18, 2014, in Atlanta. Hundreds of demonstrators gathered in downtown Atlanta to protest the shooting death of Brown, an unarmed man who was fatally shot by a police officer in Ferguson, Missouri.

during the private autopsy, said a bullet grazed Brown's right arm. He said the wound indicates Brown may have had his back to the shooter, or he could

have been facing the shooter with his hands above his head or in a defensive position across his chest or face.

"We don't know," Parcells

said. "We still have to look at the other (elements) of this investigation before we start piecing things together."

A third and final autopsy

was performed Monday for the Justice Department by one of the military's most experienced medical examiners, Holder said.

Former Vermont US Sen. Jeffords dies at 80

MONTPELIER, Vt. (AP)—Former Vermont U.S. Sen. James Jeffords, who in 2001 tipped control of the Senate when he quit the Republican Party to become an independent, died Monday. He was 80.

Jeffords died in Washington, said Diane Derby, a former aide to Jeffords. He had been in declining health, she said.

Jeffords had announced in 2005 that he would not seek a fourth term, citing his and his wife's health problems.

"I have had an enormously satisfying career, one that I would not have traded for any

other," Jeffords said when he retired. "In no other job do you have both the freedom and obligation to solve problems and help people on a daily basis."

In a statement, President Barack Obama said Jeffords devoted his life to public service.

"During his more than 30 years in Washington, Jim never lost the fiercely independent spirit that made Vermonters, and people across America, trust and respect him," Obama said.

Vermont's sole congressman, Bernie Sanders, was elected to Jeffords' Senate seat in 2006.

U.S. Sen. Patrick Leahy,



Jeffords

D-Vt., said Monday that Jeffords was a partner and friend who worked for Vermont.

"He was

a Vermont-er through and through, drawn to political life to make a difference for our state and nation," Leahy said. "Part of his legacy will also stand as an enduring chapter of the Senate's history."

Jeffords served more than 30 years in Washington. He won

election to the House in 1974 as a Republican. The post-Watergate year was a strong one for Democrats nationally, but Jeffords was running as Vermont was just beginning its shift from a century of solid Republicanism to its current status as among the most liberal states.

The Rutland native, a graduate of Yale and Harvard Law School, already had won statewide office as attorney general and was from a well-known Vermont Republican family. His father, Olin Jeffords, had been chief justice of the state Supreme Court.

No arrest for Gov. Perry, but mug shot to be taken

AUSTIN, Texas (AP)—A Texas judge opted Monday not to issue an arrest warrant against Gov. Rick Perry, but the Republican still faces the unflattering prospect of being booked, fingerprinted and having his mug shot taken - and has assembled a team of high-powered attorneys to fight the two felony counts of abuse of power against him.

Leading conservatives around the country have mostly lined up to support the longest-serving governor in Texas history, and Perry's aides said the case won't derail his busy travel schedule, which includes visits to several key presidential battleground states as he continues to eye a second run for the White House in 2016.

"This is nothing more than banana republic politics," Tony Buzbee, a Houston-based defense attorney who will head a cadre of four lawyers from Texas and Washington defending Perry, said at a news conference. "The charges lobbed against the governor are a really nasty attack not only on the rule of law but on the Constitution of the United States, the state of Texas and also the fundamental constitutional protections that we all enjoy."

Perry on Friday became the first Texas governor since 1917 to be indicted, and is facing charges of coercion and official oppression that carry a maximum sentence of 109 years in prison for carrying out a threat to

veto funding for the state's public integrity unit last summer.

The governor has emphatically stood by his veto and denied all wrongdoing. The judge overseeing the case, Republican Bert Richardson, decided against issuing an arrest warrant and instead the special prosecutor appointed to the matter, Michael McCrum, was planning a simple legal summons. That still means a booking is in Perry's future.

Buzbee said he didn't know exactly when that would occur but that the governor has no intention of hiding: "That's going to be something, that when he goes in to be booked and take his picture that we're going to let you know about."

Father of abducted Amish girls sorry for suspects

OSWEGATCHIE, N.Y. (AP)—The father of two Amish girls abducted last week said he feels sorry for the man and the woman authorities say kidnapped and sexually abused them before letting them go.

The parents of the 7- and 12-year-old sisters spoke to the Johnson Newspapers at their home in Oswegatchie on Sunday, two days after Stephen Howells Jr. and Nicole Vaisey were charged with kidnapping with the intent to physically or sexually abuse the girls.

"It's sad," the 44-year-old father said. "They must have ruined their whole life."

The Associated Press is not naming the family members because it generally does not identify people who may have been

victims of sexual abuse.

The sisters were abducted Wednesday from a farm stand in front of the family's home near the Canadian border. They were set free about 24 hours later and turned up safe at the door of a house 15 miles from where they were taken.

Howells and Vaisey were arrested Friday. Authorities say the couple sexually abused the girls before letting them go. St. Lawrence County District Attorney Mary Rain has said additional charges are likely as early as this week.

On Monday, she said Howells had waived his right to a hearing before any grand jury presentation. She said a preliminary hearing for Vaisey was still scheduled for Thursday.

St. Lawrence County Sheriff Kevin Wells said Monday that investigators have finished gathering evidence at the home Howells and Vaisey share. He said that it will take time to go through that information and that there had been no decision to file additional charges ahead of the hearing.

Lawyers for the suspects could not be reached by phone Monday, but Vaisey's lawyer, Bradford Riendeau, told The New York Times that she was in an abusive relationship with Howells.

The kidnappings touched off a massive search in the Amish family's remote farming community. Searchers scoured the community of about 4,000 people but were hampered by a lack of photos of the girls.

Asia

180 dead as floods wash away homes in Nepal, India

KATMANDU, Nepal (AP)—The death toll from three days of flooding and torrential rain in Nepal and India rose to more than 180 people Monday, as relief teams sent food, tents and medicine to prevent any outbreaks of disease.

The worst-hit areas were in western Nepal and northern India, where swirling floodwaters submerged hundreds of villages and swept away homes made of mud and straw.

Four helicopters with relief supplies and medical workers were sent to cut-off villages in western Nepal, said Jhanka Nath Dhakal of the National Emergency Operation Center. Most roads into the area are submerged or damaged by flooding, preventing vehicles from passing.

Thousands of people are without shelter in 10 flooded districts, and local officials on Monday distributed rice and lentils and cooking pots to people who lost their homes. The area is mainly farmland where the poor live in mud and straw huts that wash away easily.

At least 100 people have died in Nepal and 84 in neighboring India since Thursday due to torrential rains, authorities said.

The situation in the northern Indian state of Uttar Pradesh worsened after dams were opened in Nepal, said Alok Ranjan, a top official in Uttar Pradesh. Along with incessant rain, the rising waters caused several rivers to breach their banks, he said.

Officials in the state reported 10 more deaths overnight, pushing its toll to 34 over the past three days.

Also in northern India, at least 50 people have died in Uttarakhand state, many of them washed away as rivers overflowed, submerging villages and fields.

People in the worst-affected villages were being evacuated to relief camps set up in government and school buildings, Ranjan said.

State authorities said paramilitary soldiers in about 400 boats were helping to evacuate people from their homes after entire villages were marooned in northern Uttar Pradesh.

Vinod Kumar, a resident of Karon-da village in Uttar Pradesh, said flood waters moved in so swiftly that they

barely were able to escape.

"Late Friday we saw the water level of the Saryu River rising and by Saturday it had inundated our homes. We left the house with whatever we could manage," Kumar said.

Schools and government buildings were hastily turned into make-

shift relief camps, and officials were struggling to provide food and other necessities to thousands of people in the camps, said an official who spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to speak to the media.

In the remote northeastern Indian state of Assam, flood waters submerged large swathes of Kaziranga National Park, a wildlife reserve, forcing animals to cross a highway to escape to higher ground, said M.K. Yadava, the park's director.



Flood affected Indian villagers sit in country boats as they try to move to safer places in Harinarayanpur village in Barabanki district of Uttar Pradesh state, India, Monday, Aug. 18, 2014.

Malala urges young people to campaign for change

UNITED NATIONS (AP)—Pakistani teenager Malala Yousafzai, who was shot by the Taliban for campaigning for girls' education, told more than 500 young people Monday that they should start working right now to change the world.

The 17-year-old said raising her voice helped bring a change for girls who were not allowed to go to school in Pakistan's troubled Swat valley where she lived until she was shot. Malala spoke at an event to launch 500 days of action to achieve the U.N. Millennium Development Goals to fight poverty, which include ensuring that every child has a primary school education.

"So my message to you is that you raise and highlight the issues that you are facing and you are suffering," she said.

Malala also urged the young people to believe in themselves because "we are all the same" regardless of fame or whether you live in a rich developed country or a poorer developing country.

"We all have talents and we all are special, so just continue your hard work, continue your campaigns and you are going to be the leaders of this world, you are going to be the future of this world," she said. "And if you want to see your future bright and if you want to see development in our future, and if you don't want to see so many troubles already put for us, then we should try

and start work right now."

U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, sitting beside her, echoed Malala saying "each and every one can make a difference," even a fifth grader who saves just one drop of drinking water or turns off a light bulb.

"Be proud of yourself," the U.N. chief said. "At the same time be responsible as a global citizen. Then we can change this world."

The U.N. chief said there are still 1.2 billion people who don't have access to clean drinking water and 1.4 billion who don't have electricity and global action is crucial.

World leaders agreed in 2000 on anti-poverty goals including cutting extreme poverty by half, halting the HIV/AIDS pandemic and increasing the number of people with access to clean water and sanitation by the end of 2015.

Ban said "against the predictions of cynics" the U.N. goals have helped the world unite and cut poverty in half, increase the number of girls attending school, and reduce deaths from malaria, tuberculosis and other deadly diseases.

But challenges remain including achieving equality for women, reducing maternal and child deaths, reaching universal education, and improving sanitation—and the U.N. is working on new goals for 2030.



Malala

ASIAN BRIEFS

India calls off talks with Pakistan

NEW DELHI (AP)—In a blow to efforts to improve often-hostile ties, India on Monday called off talks with Pakistan over a meeting between its ambassador and Kashmiri separatists. External Affairs Ministry spokesman Syed Akbaruddin said Pakistani high commissioner Abdul Basit's meeting with the separatists had undermined efforts to thaw relations between the nuclear-armed neighbors. India and Pakistan agreed to resume talks on improved relations in May when Pakistan Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif attended the inauguration of Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

2 tourists still missing in Indonesia boat sinking

MATARAM, Indonesia (AP)—Rescuers on Monday safely recovered 13 more people from a tourist boat that sank after hitting a reef in central Indonesia, but were searching for a Dutch man and an Italian woman who were still missing, officials said. The boat sank Saturday evening on its way from Lombok island to Komodo island carrying 20 foreign tourists, four

Indonesian crewmen and an Indonesian guide. Ten people—all foreigners—were rescued Sunday. Eight more foreign tourists and all five Indonesians were found early Monday, said Lalu Wahyu Efendi, operational chief for the search and rescue agency in Mataram, the provincial capital of West Nusa Tenggara.

China promises to rein in executive pay

BEIJING (AP)—China's president has promised to rein in "unreasonably high" pay for executives at government-owned companies in an apparent effort to mollify public frustration at the wealth of state industry. President Xi Jinping's announcement, carried by the official Xinhua News Agency, comes as the ruling Communist Party is pressing government officials to cut spending on limousines, banquets and other trappings of office. Pay for executives at state-owned companies in industries including oil, banking and telecommunications can be hundreds of times that of the average Chinese. Xi's announcement gave no details of changes but said companies must make sure their pay scales are "proper."

Twin protests suspend life in Pakistani capital

ISLAMABAD (AP)—Twin protests demanding the Pakistani government step down have wreaked havoc in the capital, Islamabad, where commuters must circumvent shipping containers and barbed wire to get to work, protesters knock on people's doors to use the bathroom, and garbage is piling up.

"People are talking of revolution but (they) don't care about the difficulties we are facing due to this situation," said Zafar Habib, a 56-year-old government employee in Islamabad.

Tens of thousands of people have descended on the capital in recent days, answering the call from cricket-star-turned-politician Imran Khan and anti-government cleric Tahir-ul-Qadri to push for the government's ouster. Both claim widespread fraud in the May 2013 vote and want new elections, something the government of Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif is not likely to concede.

Both Khan and Qadri have vowed to remain in the streets with their supporters until Sharif leaves office, raising fears of political instability in the nuclear-armed nation, which only

saw its first democratic transfer of power last year.

The protests have taken a strain on the city of roughly 1.7 million inhabitants, many of whom work for the government, embassies, or non-governmental organizations. The difficulties began last Wednesday, when the government started to beef up security, and show no signs of letting up in the next few days.

The most affected neighborhoods have been in the eastern part of the city where the protests have been centered, not too far from the so-called "Red Zone" and a diplomatic enclave that house government offices, embassies and other sensitive installations.

Residents say protesters—mostly women—knock on their doors early in the morning, hoping to use their bathrooms.

"This is frustrating! I and other residents were trying to accommodate the women but then today some men also knocked on my door," said Sajid Khan, a real estate agent.

Male protesters have also been crowding the washrooms in local

mosques or simply going into the nearby forests. Garbage is beginning to pile up as well.

"My main concern is the deteriorating hygienic condition. This will make us and our children ill," said retired government servant Jahangir Zahid.

Residents and people trying to get to work have also been stymied by both the protesters and the security measures the government has taken to deal with them. Early last week the government started putting up shipping containers to control access to and from the city. The hundreds of vehicles brought by protesters have also clogged the roads.

"I have to put in more hours and fuel to reach my office these days," said software engineer Adeel Ahmed.

While the crowds have fallen well short of the million marchers that both Khan and Qadri promised, their presence and the heightened security measures have virtually shut down business in the capital. The rallies have nevertheless remained festive, with families picnicking and men and women dancing to drums and national songs.

World

Obama: Iraq forces retake Mosul Dam from militants

BAGHDAD (AP)—Iraqi and Kurdish forces recaptured Iraq's largest dam from Islamic militants Monday following dozens of U.S. airstrikes, President Barack Obama said, in the first major defeat for the extremists since they swept across the country this summer.

Militants from the Islamic State group had seized the Mosul Dam on Aug. 7, giving them access and control of enormous power and water reserves and threatening to deny those resources to much of Iraq.

Iraqi forces suffered a string of humiliating defeats at the hands of the Islamic State as the extremists took over large parts of northern and western Iraq and sent religious minorities fleeing.

The militants' battlefield victories brought U.S. forces back into the conflict for the first time since it withdrew its troops in 2011 and reflected the growing international concern about the Sunni extremist group. Washington launched attacks from its warplanes and drones on Aug. 8.

Pope Francis endorsed the use of force to stop the Islamic militants from attacking religious minorities in Iraq, although he said the international community—not just one country—should decide how to intervene.



Smoke rises during airstrikes targeting Islamic State militants at the Mosul Dam outside Mosul, Iraq, Monday, Aug. 18, 2014. Boosted by two days of U.S. airstrikes, Iraqi and Kurdish forces on Monday wrested back control of the country's largest dam from Islamic militants, a military spokesman in Baghdad said, as fighting was reported to be underway for the rest of the strategic facility.

Obama called recapturing the dam by Iraqi and Kurdish forces a "major step forward" in the battle against Islamic State militants.

Had the dam been breached, it could have had catastrophic consequences and endangered U.S. Embassy personnel in Baghdad, Obama said at the White House. He said the U.S. is urgently providing arms and assistance to Iraqi security forces as well as Kurdish fighters fighting the extremists.

"We've got a national security interest in making sure our people are protected and in making sure that a savage group that seems willing to slaughter people for no rhyme or reason other than they have not kow-towed—that a group like that is contained, because ultimately it can pose a threat to us," Obama told reporters.

He also urged the badly fractured and largely dysfunctional Iraqi government to move quickly to forge a united front. He noted last week's decision by Nouri al-Maliki to step down as Iraq's prime minister, a move that raised hopes a new government could roll back Iraq's powerful Sunni insurgency and prevent the country from splitting apart.

"They've got to get this done because the wolf's at the door," Obama said.

There were conflicting statements throughout the day from the Kurdish commanders, the Iraqi military in Baghdad, the Pentagon and the militants of the Islamic State group over who was in control of the strategic 2.1-mile dam that spans the Tigris River. Completed in 1986 under Saddam Hussein, it includes a sprawling complex with power generators, offices



and employee housing. The southern end is mostly reserved for housing and offices.

Before Obama spoke, Kurdish forces spokesman Halgurd Hekmat said the peshmerga regained full control of the dam and its surrounding facilities following two days of fierce clashes. But Iraq's Defense Ministry said security forces only "liberated a large part of the Mosul Dam" with the help of U.S. airstrikes, adding that forces had not freed the entire complex.

Iraqi army spokesman Lt. Gen. Qassim al-Moussawi said at least 170 bombs have been dismantled around the dam but many more remain. He added that militants fled to areas near the south of the complex, hiding in homes and offices on the premises.

The Islamic State group denied it had lost control of the facility, saying on a website frequently used by the militants that the Iraqi government claim was a "mere propaganda war."

The U.S. Central Command said it carried out 15 airstrikes near the dam Monday with fighter jets, bombers and drones. There were 25 U.S. airstrikes on Saturday and Sunday, it said.

Ukraine: Dozens killed in shelling of convoy

KIEV, Ukraine (AP)—Ukraine accused pro-Russia separatists of killing dozens of civilians in an attack early Monday on a convoy fleeing a besieged rebel-held city. The rebels denied any attack took place, while the U.S. confirmed the shelling of the convoy but said it did not know who was responsible.

The refugees were attacked with Grad rockets and other weapons imported from Russia as their convoy traveled on the main road leading from Russia to the rebel-held city of Luhansk, Col. Andriy Lysenko, a spokesman for Ukraine's National Security Council, told reporters.

"Many people were killed, among them women and children," Lysenko said of the attack, which occurred between the towns of Khyryshchuvate and Novosvitlivka. "We are not able to count the death toll at this point."

When asked about a rough estimate of deaths, he said "dozens."

Oleksiy Dmytrashivsky, a spokesman for the Ukrainian government's military operation in the east, later told The Associated Press that 15 bodies had been recovered from the smoldering vehicles and servicemen were collecting the body parts of at least 10 more people.

Donetsk rebel chief Alexander Zakharchenko insisted that no such attack had taken place. His deputy, Andrei Purgin, said he had no information about an attack and insisted it was not by his forces.

"If someone was killed, it wasn't us but the Ukrainian military," Purgin told the AP.

The road where Ukraine said Monday's attack took place has been the scene of heavy fighting in recent days as Ukrainian forces try to seal off supply routes into Luhansk from Russia. It's also the same road that would likely be the route taken by a controversial Russian aid convoy if Ukraine allows it into the country.

The war zone in eastern Ukraine is effectively off limits for journalists and lacks power in many places, limiting citizens from easily providing their own reports. All this makes independent verification impossible.

The United States condemned the attack, but said it was unable to confirm who was responsible.

"We strongly condemn the shelling and rocketing of a convoy that was bearing internally displaced persons in Luhansk and express our condolences to the families of the victims," U.S. State Department spokeswoman Marie Harf told report-

ers in Washington. "All sides must take every precaution to protect innocent lives. We are unable to confirm reports of who was responsible for the shelling and rocketing."

Fighting between government troops and pro-Russian separatists in eastern Ukraine has forced nearly 344,000

people to flee their homes, according to the United Nations, a number that has only grown as the humanitarian situation in rebel-held cities deteriorates. Running water and electricity have either been cut off completely in cities like Luhansk or are getting more limited by the day.

Egypt: No deal yet on Gaza cease-fire, more talks

CAIRO (AP)—Egypt late Monday announced a 24-hour extension in talks between Israel and the Hamas militant group aimed at salvaging a long-term arrangement that would allow reconstruction of the Gaza Strip following a monthlong war that killed more than 2,000 people.

The announcement came just minutes before a temporary truce was set to expire at midnight, averting a resumption of the fighting that has caused devastating damage across Gaza and disrupted life throughout southern Israel. "Palestinians and Israelis agreed on extending the cease-

fire by 24 hours to continue current negotiations," the Egyptian government said in a statement. Palestinian and Israeli officials confirmed they had accepted Egypt's request for an extension.

A Palestinian negotiator said the sides had exchanged draft proposals for a long-term truce

that were to be addressed during the 24-hour extension in talks. He spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to brief the media.

Since last week, Egypt has been hosting indirect talks between Israel and Hamas aimed at ending the war.

100,000 elephants killed in Africa, study finds

NAIROBI, Kenya (AP)—Poachers killed an estimated 100,000 elephants across Africa between 2010 and 2012, a huge spike in the continent's death rate of the world's largest mammals because of an increased demand for ivory in China and other Asian nations, a new study published Monday found.

Warnings about massive elephant slaughters have been ringing for years, but Monday's study is the first to scientifically quantify the number of deaths across the

continent by measuring deaths in one closely monitored park in Kenya and using other published data to extrapolate fatality tolls across the continent.

The study—which was carried out by the world's leading elephant experts—found that the proportion of illegally killed elephants has climbed from 25 percent of all elephant deaths a decade ago to roughly 65 percent of all elephant deaths today, a percentage that, if continued, will lead to the extinction

of the species.

China's rising middle class and the demand for ivory in that country of 1.3 billion people is driving the black market price of ivory up, leading to more impoverished people in Africa "willing to take the criminal risk on and kill elephants. The causation in my mind is clear," said the study's lead author, George Wittemyer of Colorado State University.

The peer-review study was published Monday in the Proceedings of the National Acad-

emy of Sciences. It was co-authored by experts from Save the Elephants, the Kenya Wildlife Service, an international group called MIKE responsible for monitoring the illegal killings of elephants, and two international universities.

"The current demand for ivory is unsustainable. That is our overarching conclusion. It must come down. Otherwise the elephants will continue to decrease," said Iain Douglas-Hamilton, founder of Save the Elephants.

Focus

Strong DOJ response to Ferguson seeks truth, calm

By JESSE WASHINGTON
AP NATIONAL WRITER

The U.S. Department of Justice has mounted an unusually swift and aggressive response to the death of Michael Brown, from an independent autopsy to dozens of FBI agents combing Ferguson, Missouri, for witnesses to the shooting of the unarmed black 18-year-old by a white police officer.

The goal, legal observers say, is to ensure that the truth about the killing is revealed, to ease racial tensions, and to reassure those fearing a cover-up that justice will be done.

Brown was shot dead in the street in the St. Louis suburb on Aug. 9. Gov. Jay Nixon asked for a federal investigation two days later, after riots erupted when the county police force confronted protesters with armored vehicles, tear gas and dogs. After the images of the military-style police response drew widespread criticism, federal officials said they were coaching local authorities on different tactics.

On Saturday, 40 FBI agents started going door-to-door in the neighborhood where the shooting took place, interviewing witnesses and gathering information. An independent federal autopsy was announced Sunday, and Attorney General Eric Holder said it was performed Monday. President Barack Obama also announced Monday that Holder would travel to Ferguson to meet with investigators and community leaders.

"What they usually do is wait for the local investigation to complete itself," said Alberto Gonzales, former attorney general under President George W. Bush.

Gonzales said that although he did not have all the information being evaluated by federal officials, it appeared to be an aggressive and unusual response



A makeshift memorial sits in the middle of the street where 18-year-old Michael Brown was shot and killed by police, Monday, Aug. 11, 2014, in Ferguson, Mo. The FBI has opened an investigation into the fatal shooting of an unarmed black teenager on Saturday whose death stirred unrest in a St. Louis suburb.

to an unusual case.

"They're going in with one goal: to ascertain the truth. And to do so in a way that raw feelings can be comforted and soothed," said Gonzales, who is now dean of the Belmont College of Law in Nashville.

Ferguson is about 70 percent black. Ferguson's mayor is white, as are five of six city council members and 50 of its 53 police officers. Many in Ferguson and beyond fear that local officials will not act fairly in determining whether to charge the officer, Darren Wilson, with a crime.

St. Louis County Prosecuting Attorney Bob McCulloch, who is in charge of the investigation, also is white. He comes from a family of police officers, including his father. When he was 12,

his father was fatally shot by a black man while responding to a call. In a 2000 case, McCulloch brought no charges against two officers who fired 21 shots into a vehicle, killing two black men during an attempted drug arrest.

McCulloch has declined calls to step away from the case, saying in a television interview, "I've been as fair and impartial and done as thorough of a job as we could."

At the Department of Justice, Holder, the first black attorney general, who took office promising to fiercely fight discrimination and inequality, has been an increasingly visible presence during the Ferguson case.

That is reassuring to Blair L.M. Kelley, a history professor at North Carolina State University.

"I'm glad to see him being proactive," she said. "That's the best way to tamp down anger on the streets, is to pursue justice in an evenhanded manner. I think he knows that and is using his position to best serve a broader sense of justice."

"It puts pressure on the local investigators to do their best, because he's there," Kelley said.

Sampson Cheney III, a Ferguson resident who lives 50 yards from where Brown was shot, is glad that federal agents are on the scene. He was interviewed by an FBI agent Saturday. He doubts that local officials would file charges against the officer.

"It seems (federal officials) don't have a horse in the race," Cheney said.

Holder and White House adviser Valerie Jarrett spoke with

representatives of civic groups who had been invited to participate in a White House call Monday afternoon.

A person on the call said participants were told that federal investigators have interviewed about 200 people so far, some referred through the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. The call was closed to reporters, and the participant spoke on condition of anonymity because of the no-media ground rules.

Kelley said Holder's actions have been reminiscent of the role played by Attorney General Robert Kennedy (whose portrait hangs outside Holder's office) during the civil rights movement, when President John F. Kennedy was trying to navigate black resistance to white su-

premacy in the Jim Crow South. Ultimately, the Kennedys used federal authority to ensure equal treatment for African-Americans. They also brought federal civil rights charges in some cases—a possibility that Holder's Justice Department is investigating in Ferguson.

The Justice Department investigated civil rights charges after the unarmed teen Trayvon Martin was killed by neighborhood watchman George Zimmerman in Florida. No charges were filed, despite requests by the NAACP and other advocacy groups.

But there are important differences between the Kennedy years and now, said John Malcolm, a former deputy assistant attorney general, who now is director of the Meese Legal Center at the Heritage Foundation.

"I don't think in this case police are like, we want to oppress black people and deny them their constitutional rights," Malcolm said. "They're responding to a riot situation, and it got out of control."

Malcolm could not recall a similar federal response to a case like Michael Brown's.

"It's certainly aggressive," he said. "It sends a message that the federal government is concerned and wants to get involved and de-escalate the tension as soon as possible."

Malcolm said that strategy could backfire, if it fans false assumptions that there is a racial component to the case. But overall he did not have any criticism of the DOJ's actions.

"This is a rapidly deteriorating situation," he said. "Clearly in the public mind there is a racial component to how police have acted. Police have not helped themselves with their overreaction to the situation. So I think there are times when (federal involvement) can help defuse the situation. Let's hope that's what happens here."

Key events following the death of Michael Brown

FERGUSON, Mo. (AP)—A timeline of key events following the fatal police shooting of 18-year-old Michael Brown in the St. Louis suburb of Ferguson, Missouri.

AUG. 9—Brown and a companion are confronted by an officer as they walk back to Brown's home from a convenience store. Brown and the officer are involved in some kind of scuffle, followed by gunshots. Brown dies at the scene.

AUG. 10—After a candlelight vigil, people protesting Brown's death smash car windows and carry away armloads of looted goods from stores. In the first of several nights of vio-

lence, looters are seen making off with bags of food, toilet paper and alcohol. Some protesters stand atop police cars and taunt officers.

AUG. 11—The FBI opens an investigation into Brown's death, and two men who said they saw the shooting tell reporters that Brown had his hands raised when the officer approached with his weapon and fired repeatedly. That night, police in riot gear fire tear gas and rubber bullets to try to disperse a crowd.

AUG. 12—Ferguson Police Chief Tom Jackson cancels plans to release the name of the officer who shot Brown, citing

death threats against the police department and City Hall. The Rev. Al Sharpton and President Barack Obama both plead for calm after two nights of clashes between police and protesters.

AUG. 13—Another night of violence wracks Ferguson, with some people lobbing Molotov cocktails and other objects at police, who respond with smoke bombs and tear gas. Two reporters are detained at a McDonald's. Images of the standoff, showing police using armored vehicles and pointing assault rifles at the crowds, are widely shared on social media.

AUG. 14—The Missouri Highway Patrol takes control

of security in Ferguson, relieving local police of their law-enforcement authority after four days of violence. Within hours, the mood among protesters becomes lighter, even festive. The streets are filled with music, free food and even laughter.

AUG. 15—Police identify the officer who shot Brown as Darren Wilson, a 28-year-old man who had patrolled the St. Louis suburbs for six years. They also release a video purporting to show Brown robbing a convenience store of almost \$50 worth of cigars shortly before he was killed. The video draws anger from protesters. After nightfall, officers and the crowds clash again. Some people in the crowd storm into

the same convenience store that Brown was accused of robbing and loot it.

AUG. 16—Missouri Gov. Jay Nixon declares a state of emergency and imposes a curfew in Ferguson. The first night of the curfew ends with tear gas and seven arrests, after police in riot gear use armored vehicles to disperse defiant protesters who refused to leave.

AUG. 17—Attorney General Eric Holder orders a federal medical examiner to perform another autopsy on Brown. The Justice Department cites the "extraordinary circumstances" surrounding the death and a request by Brown's family members.

Police use tear gas to clear the street that has been the scene of most protests three hours ahead of the curfew after reports of gunfire, looting and people hurling Molotov cocktails.

AUG. 18—Nixon calls the National Guard to Ferguson to help restore order and lifts the curfew imposed two days earlier. A pathologist hired by the family says an independent autopsy determined that Michael Brown was shot at least six times, including twice in the head. A bullet wound to his right arm may indicate his hands were up or his back was turned, but the autopsy team can't be sure without more information, the pathologist said.

Campus Life

Peek into brain shows how kids learn math skills

By LAURAN NEERGAARD
AP MEDICAL WRITER

WASHINGTON (AP)—Some-time in elementary school, you quit counting your fingers and just know the answer. Now scientists have put youngsters into brain scanners to find out why, and watched how the brain reorganizes itself as kids learn math.

The take-home advice: drilling your kids on simple addition and multiplication may pay off.

"Experience really does matter," said Dr. Kathy Mann Koepke of the National Institutes of Health, which funded the research.

Healthy children start making that switch between counting to what's called fact retrieval when they're 8 years old to 9 years old, when they're still working on fundamental addition and subtraction. How well kids make that shift to memory-based problem-solving is known to predict their ultimate math achievement.

Those who fall behind "are impairing or slowing down their math learning later on," Mann Koepke said.

States encourage bilingualism with diploma seals

By GOSIA WOZNIAKA
ASSOCIATED PRESS

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP)—When Rachel Martinez-Regan graduated from Corvallis High School this month, her diploma had a little something extra—an embossed seal certifying that she is bilingual.

She is one of more than a dozen students at the Oregon high school who earned the distinction based on their proficiency in English and Spanish. The honor is part of a pilot project led by several school districts in the state with dual-language programs, and the Oregon Department of Education plans to make the bilingual seals available statewide next year.

California, New Mexico, Washington, Illinois and Louisiana are among the other states that are recognizing and rewarding bilingual education.

Martinez-Regan said the bilingual program was academically challenging but she's certain it will give her career plans a boost.

"I'm thinking of becoming a lawyer, to give the Spanish-speaking community a voice," said Martinez-Regan, who is half Latina but did not speak Spanish before enrolling in the program. She will attend Yale University this fall.

Dual-language programs have gained in popularity across the country as employers seek bilingual, bicultural workers, and more parents view bilingualism as necessary for their children's success in a global-



In this Oct. 1, 2013, file photo, third grade teacher Melissa Grieshaber teaches a math lesson at Silver Lake Elementary School in Middletown, Del.

But why do some kids make the transition easier than others?

To start finding out, Stanford University researchers first peeked into the brains of 28 children as they solved a series of simple addition problems inside a brain-scanning MRI machine.

No scribbling out the answer:

The 7- to 9-year-olds saw a calculation—three plus four equals seven, for example—flash on a screen and pushed a button to say if the answer was right or wrong. Scientists recorded how quickly they responded and what regions of their brain became active as they did.

In a separate session, they also tested the kids face to face, watching if they moved their lips or counted on their fingers, for comparison with the brain data.

The children were tested twice, roughly a year apart. As the kids got older, their answers relied more on memory and became faster and more accurate, and it showed in the brain. There was less activity in the prefrontal and parietal regions

associated with counting and more in the brain's memory center, the hippocampus, the researchers reported Sunday in *Nature Neuroscience*.

The hippocampus is sort of like a relay station where new memories come in—short-term working memory—and then can be sent elsewhere for longer-term storage and retrieval. Those hippocampal connections increased with the kids' math performance.

"The stronger the connections, the greater each individual's ability to retrieve facts from memory," said Dr. Vinod Menon, a psychiatry professor at Stanford and the study's senior author.

But that's not the whole story.

Next, Menon's team put 20 adolescents and 20 adults into the MRI machines and gave them the same simple addition problems. It turns out that adults don't use their memory-crunching hippocampus in the same way. Instead of using a lot of effort, retrieving six plus four equals 10 from long-term storage was almost automatic, Menon said.

In other words, over time the brain became increasingly efficient at retrieving facts. Think of it like a bumpy, grassy field, NIH's Mann Koepke explained.

Walk over the same spot enough and a smooth, grass-free path forms, making it easier to get from start to end.

If your brain doesn't have to work as hard on simple math, it has more working memory free to process the teacher's brand-new lesson on more complex math.

"The study provides new evidence that this experience with math actually changes the hippocampal patterns, or the connections. They become more stable with skill development," she said. "So learning your addition and multiplication tables and having them in rote memory helps."

Quiz your child in different orders, she advised—nine times three and then 10 times nine—to make sure they really remember and didn't have to think it through.

While the study focuses on math, Mann Koepke said cognitive development in general probably works the same way. After all, kids who match sounds to letters earlier learn to read faster.

Stanford's Menon said the next step is to study what goes wrong with this system in children with math learning disabilities, so that scientists might try new strategies to help them learn.

Message of Appreciation

We the Family of the Late
†Henry O. Sablan

Would like to extend our sincerest gratitude for all the prayers, condolences, and support from all our family and friends near and far, and to all who donated and contributed in kind to make our time of mourning less difficult.

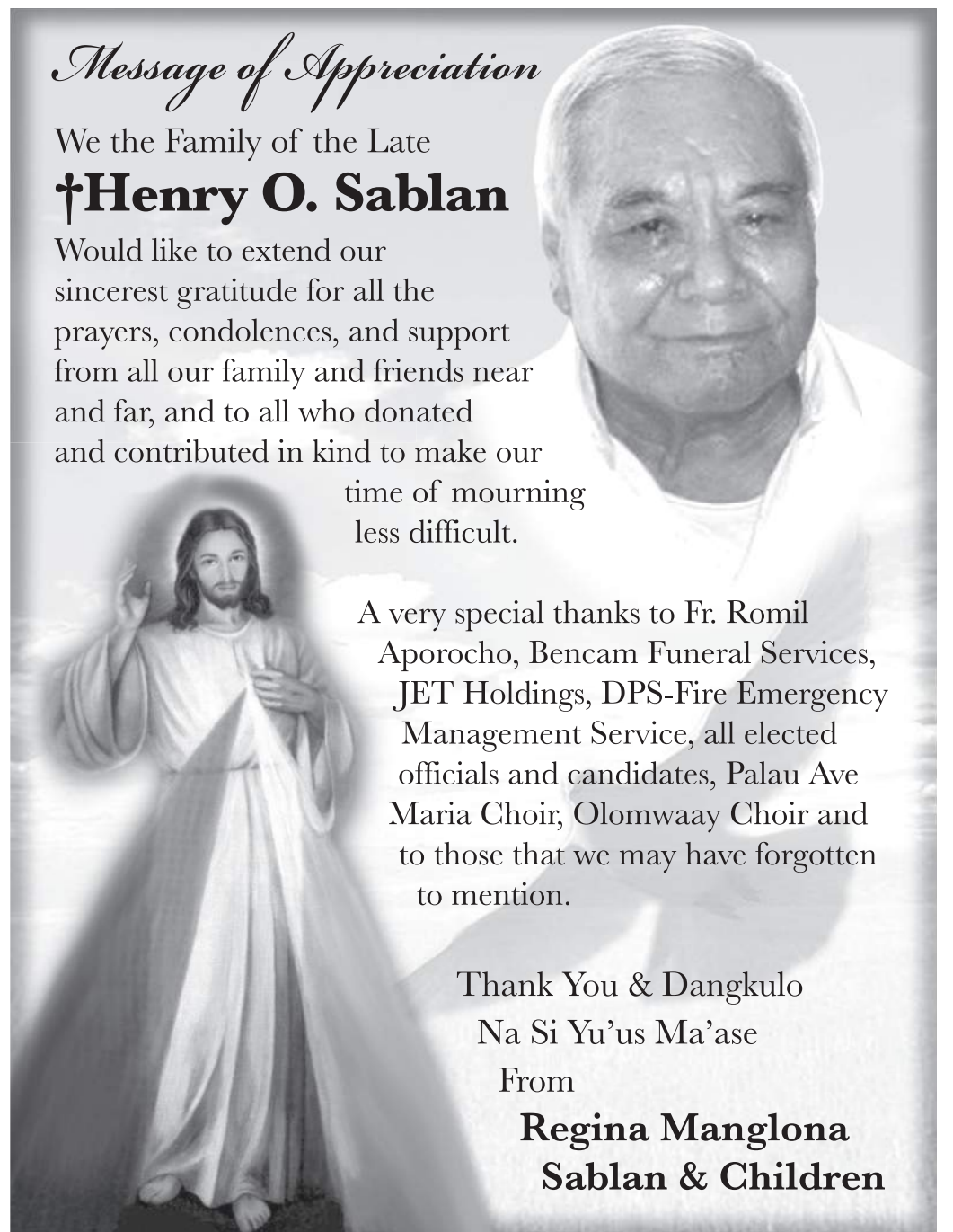
A very special thanks to Fr. Romil Aporocho, Bencam Funeral Services, JET Holdings, DPS-Fire Emergency Management Service, all elected officials and candidates, Palau Ave Maria Choir, Olomwaay Choir and to those that we may have forgotten to mention.

Thank You & Dangkulo

Na Si Yu'us Ma'ase

From

**Regina Manglona
Sablan & Children**



Life & Style

Smokey Robinson, still writing, duets with friends

By RYAN PEARSON
AP ENTERTAINMENT WRITER

LOS ANGELES (AP)—After five decades in show business, the man who shaped Motown with instantly recognizable hits like “My Girl” and “Tears of a Clown” says he can’t stop writing.

Smokey Robinson says he scribbles down lyrics on a pad or leaves a fragment of a tune on his own voice mail whenever inspiration hits.

“I write on the plane, on the bus, on the train, I write in the bathroom,” Robinson said in an interview. “I do have a bunch of songs that I’m very anxious to record.”

But you won’t hear any of that material on his latest album,

“Smokey & Friends,” out Tuesday. The collection of Robinson tunes pairs the legendary singer-songwriter with Elton John, Mary J. Blige, James Taylor, CeeLo Green, Miguel, Steven Tyler and more.

Robinson, who is on a U.S. tour, talked to The Associated Press about his duets collaborators and his love of being on the road.

GETTING A HOLD OF FRIENDS

On “Smokey & Friends,” Robinson sang “You’ve Really Got a Hold on Me” in-studio with longtime friend Steven Tyler, while the other tracks were pieced together electronically from separate recording sessions.

Each collaborator picked a favorite song written by Rob-

inson. Elton John, a Robinson friend for three decades, chose “The Tracks of My Tears,” first recorded by the Miracles in 1965.

“When we’re around each other, we have a great time. Neither one of us is from affluency,” Robinson said of John. “So when you come up like that and your dream is to be in show business or to sing or play and you get the chance to really do it and earn your living, and it’s your life—it’s a wonderful thing.”

BACK INTO THE STORM

Robinson heard John Legend cover his song “Quiet Storm” in concert and told the 35-year-old soul crooner backstage that he should record a version of it.

“I look at people like John and I know that the future



AP

In this July 12, 2014 photo, Motown legend Smokey Robinson poses for a photo, in Los Angeles.

‘Ninja Turtles’ knocks out box-office competition



AP

This file image released by Paramount Pictures shows characters, from left, Raphael, Michelangelo, Leonardo, and Donatello, in a scene from “Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles.”

NEW YORK (AP)—The reptile reboot “Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles” held off a trio of new challengers at the weekend box office.

The Paramount Pictures release took in \$28.5 million in its second week, besting

the Fox buddy comedy “Let’s Be Cops,” Lionsgate’s poor-performing action-hero smorgasbord “The Expendables 3” and the Weinstein Co.’s young-adult novel adaptation “The Giver.”

The top 20 movies at U.S.

and Canadian theaters Friday through Sunday, followed by distribution studio, gross, number of theater locations, average receipts per location, total gross and number of weeks in release, as compiled Monday by Rentrak, are:

1. “Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles,” Paramount, \$28,523,147, 3,980 locations, \$7,167 average, \$117,765,383, 2 weeks.
2. “Guardians Of The Galaxy,” Disney, \$25,115,564, 3,697 locations, \$6,793 average, \$222,661,385, 3 weeks.
3. “Let’s Be Cops,” 20th Century Fox, \$17,813,722, 3,094 locations, \$5,758 average, \$26,220,986, 1 week.
4. “The Expendables 3,” Lionsgate, \$15,879,645, 3,221 locations, \$4,930 average, \$15,879,645, 1 week.
5. “The Giver,” The Weinstein Company, \$12,305,016, 3,003 locations, \$4,098 average, \$12,305,016, 1 week.
6. “Into The Storm,” Warner Bros., \$7,892,239, 3,434 locations, \$2,298 average, \$31,513,675, 2 weeks.
7. “The Hundred-Foot Journey,” Disney, \$7,176,092, 2,043 locations, \$3,513 average, \$23,686,223, 2 weeks.
8. “Lucy,” Universal, \$5,493,685, 2,520 locations, \$2,180 average, \$107,713,190, 4 weeks.
9. “Step Up All In,” Lionsgate, \$2,659,026, 2,072 locations, \$1,283 average, \$11,808,360, 2 weeks.
10. “Hercules,” Paramount, \$2,127,874, 1,475 locations, \$1,443 average, \$68,169,096, 4 weeks.
11. “Boyhood,” IFC Films, \$1,992,448, 771 locations, \$2,584 average, \$13,642,910, 6 weeks.
12. “Dawn Of The Planet Of The Apes,” 20th Century Fox, \$1,984,776, 1,262 locations, \$1,573 average, \$201,897,136, 6 weeks.
13. “Get On Up,” Universal, \$1,949,295, 1,101 locations, \$1,770 average, \$27,049,950, 3 weeks.
14. “Magic In the Moonlight,” Sony Pictures Classics, \$1,786,150, 964 locations, \$1,853 average, \$4,616,606, 4 weeks.
15. “A Most Wanted Man,” Roadside Attractions, \$1,256,384, 644 locations, \$1,951 average, \$12,645,062, 4 weeks.
16. “Planes: Fire and Rescue,” Disney, \$1,027,609, 960 locations, \$1,070 average, \$55,723,368, 5 weeks.
17. “What If,” CBS Films, \$854,364, 787 locations, \$1,086 average, \$1,060,219, 2 weeks.
18. “Singharam Returns,” Eros Entertainment, \$654,045, 127 locations, \$5,150 average, \$654,045, 1 week.
19. “The Purge: Anarchy,” Universal, \$632,910, 575 locations, \$1,101 average, \$70,127,290, 5 weeks.
20. “How To Train Your Dragon 2,” 20th Century Fox, \$579,545, 377 locations, \$1,537 average, \$171,242,138, 10 weeks.

of show business is in good hands,” Robinson said. The two join up on a new version of the tune, which in 1975 marked Robinson’s return to the industry after a brief hiatus.

“I’m very close to that song,” he said. “It became a radio format and there are ‘quiet storm’ stations all over the country now.”

MARY’S METAMORPHOSIS

Robinson says he’s been watching and listening to Mary J. Blige since she debuted in 1992 as the “queen of hip-hop soul.”

“Mary has done a metamorphosis from when I first met her,” he said. “She came from having

the image of the hip-hop world into what she has now. And that’s a whole other vision of her. ... She’s very spiritual. And she’s one of the greatest singers ever.”

On the duets album, Blige sings “Being With You,” first recorded by Robinson in 1981 on his solo album of the same name.

GENERATIONS OF SMOKEY FANS

Robinson, 74, has been performing for over five decades and won’t be stopping anytime soon. He gets a spark of energy from seeing parents in the audience holding infants.

“The first time I saw those people, they were on their parents’ laps. There’s everybody there from 6 months to 100, and they’re of all races,” he said. “I’m not going to get that anywhere else. I’m not going to get that same feeling, that same vibe, that same energy, anywhere else.”

There’s no after-party after each two-hour show nowadays, though.

“That was the party for me. I’m going to my hotel now. I’m going to watch some TV until I wind down and go to sleep. But it is a party,” he said. “That’s why I still do it.”

NBC’s Brian Williams taking on new competition

By DAVID BAUDER
AP TELEVISION WRITER

NEW YORK (AP)—Wearing shades as he walked back to work following a pizza lunch recently, Brian Williams ducked into Rockefeller Center and passed a tour guide who noted the celebrity sighting to his group: “Ladies and gentlemen, there’s Tom Brokaw.”

The television business can be humbling, even nearly 10 years after Williams succeeded Brokaw as NBC “Nightly News” anchor. Williams, 55, faces new competition from both ABC and CBS as they look to end NBC’s 256-week streak as the most popular evening newscast.

David Muir takes over after Labor Day as anchor of the second-place “World News” at ABC. Steve Capus, former NBC news president and longtime Williams producer, is in charge behind the scenes as Scott Pelley’s executive producer at the “CBS Evening News.”

“When I started my competition was Dan (Rather) and Peter (Jennings),” Williams said. “That makes me feel old. That



AP

This Sept. 11, 2012 file image released by Starpix shows Brian Williams at the Cantor Fitzgerald Charity Day event in New York.

gets me on the treadmill every night after work. I am proud of what we’ve built here.”

So far this year, “Nightly News” has averaged 8.9 million viewers and widened its lead over ABC (8 million) and CBS (6.8 million). ABC has gained lately in the 25-to-54-year-old demographic, important to advertisers even as it is a minority of evening news viewers. ABC occasionally wins in that category and, in July, was up 5 percent

over last year while NBC was down 4 percent, the Nielsen company said.

“Nightly” is the no-drama newscast at a network where “Today” seeks to regain its mojo against ABC’s ratings leader “Good Morning America” and David Gregory is being replaced by Chuck Todd as moderator of “Meet the Press,” as the venerable Sunday morning show has fallen from first to third place during Gregory’s tenure.

Taylor Swift to release new album on Oct. 27



This Aug. 10, 2014 file photo shows Taylor Swift at the Teen Choice Awards at the Shrine Auditorium in Los Angeles.

AP

NEW YORK (AP)—Taylor Swift is saying goodbye to country music, for now: The singer says she’s releasing her first full-length pop album on Oct. 27.

The 24-year-old revealed in a livestream via Yahoo! on Monday that “1989,” named for her birth year, is her “first documented official pop album.”

The first single is the upbeat jam “Shake It Off,” which she debuted during the livestream and was released Monday. She danced happily in a cropped

white top and skirt with the audience as the song played.

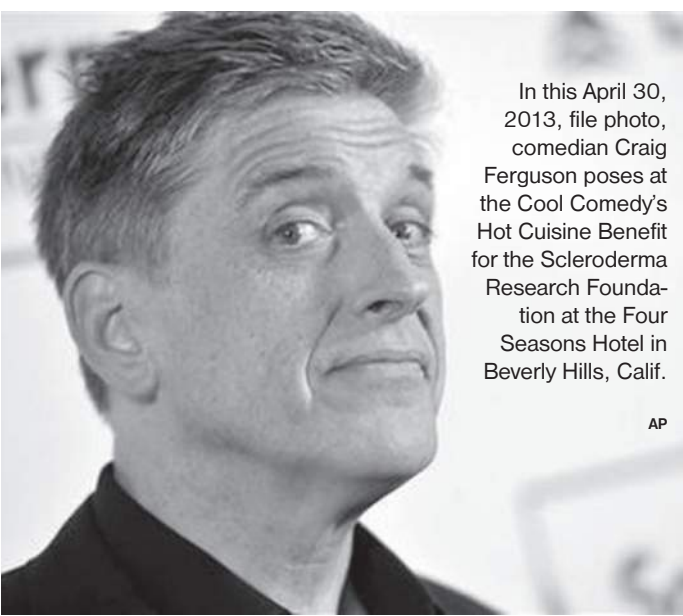
Swift called her upcoming fifth album a “rebirth.”

“We made the most sonically cohesive album I’ve ever made,” she said of “1989,” which was available for pre-order on Monday.

Swift’s last effort was 2012’s “Red,” which sold 1.2 million copies in its first week. Swift said she was mainly inspired by late ’80s pop music when recording “1989” over the past two years.

“I woke up every day ... not wanting, but needing to make a new style of music than I made before,” she told the audience.

The singer also premiered the music video for “Shake It Off” during the livestream. The song was produced by Max Martin and Shellback, who helmed the Swift hits “We Are Never Ever Getting Back Together” and “I Knew You Were Trouble.”



In this April 30, 2013, file photo, comedian Craig Ferguson poses at the Cool Comedy’s Hot Cuisine Benefit for the Scleroderma Research Foundation at the Four Seasons Hotel in Beverly Hills, Calif.

AP

Source: Craig Ferguson to launch new talk show

NEW YORK (AP)—Craig Ferguson is close to a deal to launch an early-evening talk show starting in fall 2015.

The outgoing host of CBS’ “The Late Late Show” would introduce his half-hour syndicated series on stations in a slot just before prime time, according to a source with knowledge of the deal who spoke on the condition of anonymity because that person wasn’t authorized to comment publicly.

Ferguson is expected to bring

along his robot skeleton “sidekick,” Geoff, as well as executive producer Michael Naidus.

A Ferguson representative didn’t immediately respond Monday to a request for comment.

Ferguson, who has held a late-night berth on CBS for a decade, will step down in December.

In a separate venture, he will host a new syndicated game show, “Celebrity Name Game,” beginning next month.

NBC’s ‘Blacklist’ gets A-list marketing treatment

LOS ANGELES (AP)—With TV viewers awash in choices, how can a network bolster a freshman hit’s chances of repeating its success in year two? Plot a marketing extravaganza that’s nearly inescapable.

For NBC’s top-rated drama “The Blacklist,” the network has devised a promotion and advertising campaign that will put the show and star James Spader

front and center on billboards, faux magazine covers and online before its Sept. 22 return.

Various images of Spader as master criminal Raymond “Red” Reddington will decorate the mock covers on the flip side of 10 magazines, including the August or September issues of Vanity Fair, Rolling Stone, Wired and the New Yorker. Playboy will feature a “Blacklist” cover ad fronting the

issue out Tuesday, NBC said.

Among the eye-catching fakes: the back of the men’s magazine GQ, re-labeled BQ, showing a sharp-dressed Spader with a headline that pays homage to Reddington’s style: “The Blacklist of criminal chic: fedoras, trenchcoats & more.”

The network declined to put a price tag on the campaign, but its pull-out-the-stops approach makes

sense. “The Blacklist” was among the reasons NBC finished the 2013-14 season as No. 1 among advertiser-favored young adult viewers for the first time in a decade.

“The size and scope of this campaign speak to both the importance of the series to NBC and the creative ways in which we can get that message out,” said Len Fogge, president of marketing and digital for NBC Entertainment.

Debbie Reynolds to get SAG Life Achievement Award

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The Screen Actors Guild is honoring Debbie Reynolds for her professional and humanitarian accomplishments.

The guild announced Monday that the 82-year-old entertainer will receive the 2014 SAG Life Achievement Award at the Screen Actors Guild Awards ceremony in January. The award is the union’s high-

est accolade.

Reynolds is a star of stage and screen, with more than 50 films, two Broadway shows and two TV series to her credit. In 1955, she and other young stars established a charity called The Thelians to fight the stigma of mental illness. The Thelians has since raised more than \$30 million.

Reynolds published her first

memoir in 1987 and updated it with 2013’s “Unsinkable: A Memoir.”

The 21st annual SAG Awards will be presented Jan. 25 at Los Angeles’ Shrine Exhibition Center.

In this May 21, 2013 file photo, actress Debbie Reynolds poses for a portrait in Beverly Hills, Calif.

AP



Husband who relives his past should focus on his present

DEAR ABBY: I’m married to the love of my life. I can’t imagine loving a man more than I love “Wayne,” and I know he feels the same about me. The problem is, he’s always telling stories about things he has done, including past relationships, in graphic detail.

I have heard all of them repeatedly, and I’m sick of them. When I tell him this he says, “Fine! I won’t talk to you anymore.” Wayne never talks about OUR past, present or future. How can I get him to stop reliving “the good ol’ days” and start focusing on our life together?

CURRENT EVENT IN KENTUCKY

DEAR CURRENT EVENT: Wayne may react defensively when you say you’re “sick” of his stories because he feels you are criticizing him. Perhaps if you told him that hearing him dwell on past relationships is hurtful, he might be willing to enlarge his repertoire.

If that doesn’t help, it’s possible your husband feels his best years are behind him. Past conquests and adventures can be more fun to dwell on than the new lawnmower, the plumbing that needs replacement, which friends are sick and the most recent one who died. Things might improve if you work together to create activities that will spice up your lives and give him some new material. Try it. It might benefit you both.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: I have been in a relationship with “Bob” for 12 years. He doesn’t work and doesn’t take care of our children because he says it’s “not his responsibility.” I have supported him all

this time, yet nothing is good enough.

He has cheated on me several times. During his third affair, he had two kids with the other woman. He doesn’t understand why I don’t trust him and why I insist on seeing his cellphone. The last time I was able to get ahold of it, he broke down the bathroom door trying to get it back.

He threatens to move out, and if he does, that will be “the last I hear from him.” I would be relieved if he went. I have so much anger toward him. I love him, but at this point love doesn’t have anything to do with it.

I have asked him several times to leave, but he just keeps saying he’ll be leaving on his own terms. I can’t continue like this anymore. He brings out the worst in me and I hate it. What do I do?

HAD IT IN PHOENIX

DEAR HAD IT: That you have tolerated this behavior for 12 years boggles my mind. Because this philandering freeloader has resided with you for so long, you may have to go through formal eviction proceedings to get rid of him. You have given him a free ride, and you may need the services of a lawyer to pry him out of there. If you do, consider it money well spent.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: If a spouse keeps photos of a college sweetheart after 50 years, what does it mean? Does it mean he is still carrying a torch for that person and doesn’t want to forget her?

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



SUSPICIOUS IN HOUSTON

DEAR SUSPICIOUS: I doubt it, but if you want to be sure, the person you should ask is your husband. After 50 years, the “torch” may be too heavy to carry—or completely out.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

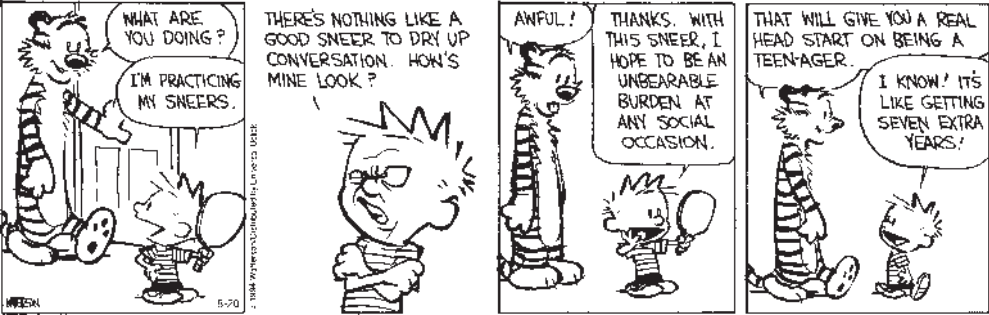
Abby shares more than 100 of her favorite recipes in two booklets: “Abby’s Favorite Recipes” and “More Favorite Recipes by Dear Abby.” Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$14 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Cookbooklet Set, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

Garfield®

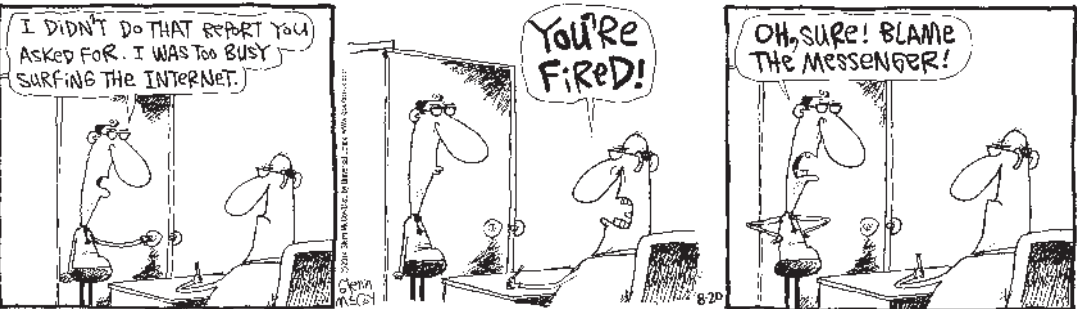
By Jim Davis



Adam@home

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Young chap

4 CSA soldier

7 Chanel of couture

8 Embankment

10 Nevertheless, poetically

11 Too

13 Dispenser for the thirsty

16 Comedian Philips

17 Nitwits

18 Wall St. debut

19 Ethereal

20 From the start

21 Exposed

23 Accepts

25 Slip up

26 Cougar

27 No longer chic

28 Hotel accomodation

30 Justice Dept. agency

33 Ethan Allen's — Boys

36 Dresser

37 Pythias' pal

38 Wanders

39 Former partners

40 Tackle moguls

41 Accomplished

DOWN

1 Gambling game

2 Rue the workout

3 Go for broke

4 Sketch show

5 Smooths (out)

6 Emie's buddy

7 Chowder morsel

8 Strange

9 "Seinfeld" role

10 Shock partner

12 "Holy cow!"

14 Nixon

15 Present

19 Shrewd stock trader, for short

20 Alias abbr.

21 Book-jacket

22 Stylish film-maker

23 Ballet frill

24 Improved a text

25 London atmosphere

26 Devout

28 Furtive one

29 Savory taste

30 Notorious

31 Resumes, for short

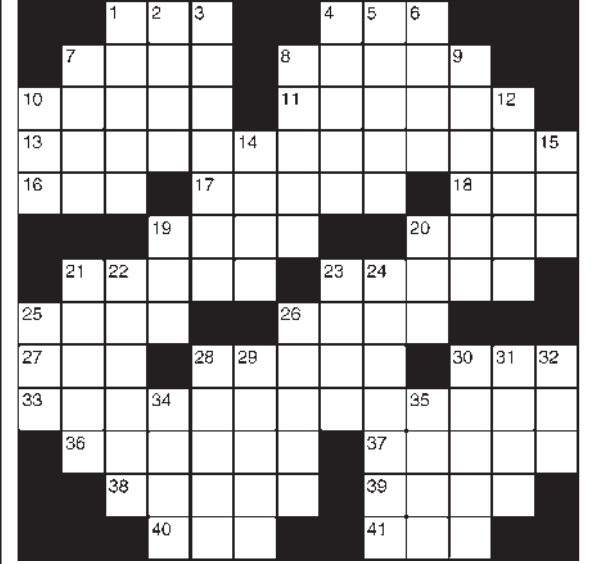
32 Hostel

34 Cupid's alter ego

35 Cab

Solution time: 23 mins.

Yesterday's answer 8-20



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Demi Lovato, 22; Andrew Garfield, 31; Amy Adams, 40; Al Roker, 60.

Happy Birthday: Be a participant and make a difference. Intelligent communication, along with an energetic pursuit to make your life better and your relationship with others worthwhile, will bring good results. You can make positive change that encourages involvement in satisfying projects. Your desire for leadership will be recognized and the support will be given to help you make your dreams come true. Your numbers are 8, 14, 22, 27, 35, 43, 48.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): You can find a bargain, but avoid emotional spending. Put more into the way you look or the skills you want to develop. A change in the way you approach someone will help you take control and get things done your way. ***

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Share your feelings, but don't expect everyone to favor what you say. You'll find out where you stand by being honest and straightforward. You will gain personal stability if you can determine the most practical route to take. ****

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Don't take a chance when it comes to legal, financial or medical issues. Positive change at home that helps you cut corners should be implemented. Don't feel compelled to donate or take care of others. Charity begins at home. ***

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Put more effort into taking care of your health. Exercise and a proper diet will be necessary if you want to ward off illness. Discussions that

address a stressful matter may not be welcome, but in the end it will be beneficial. ***

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Get your plans out in the open before someone accuses you of being secretive. Once you have informed everyone regarding your plans, you can move forward without feeling guilty. Too much of anything will be overkill. Moderation will be necessary. ****

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Incorporate your knowledge, findings and experience in order to get ahead and impress someone who may be questioning your ability. Financial change is apparent, but to what extent will depend on how much you are willing to put in and compromise. ****

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Study the situation you face today and what you can do to help. Don't hesitate to take action. Leave your emotions out of any decision you need to make. Base the changes you make on what's required to reach your intended goal. **

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Someone will be watching what you do with a critical eye. Appeal to the sensitivity of any situation you face. A practical approach coupled with a passionate response will help you achieve the results you are hoping for. Protect your health and physical wellness. *****

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Refuse to let anyone pressure you into doing something that isn't going to do you any good. Step back and take a look at your current friends and associates and choose to align yourself with those who share your goals. ***

EUGENIA LAST THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY



CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Impulsive, unpredictable people are best kept at arm's length. You will complement serious-minded, dedicated people looking to make improvements to the way things are done. Avoid unnecessary expenditures. Combat poor ideas with worthwhile replacements. ***

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Don't let anything stand in your way. Check out opportunities that will raise your standard of living. A partnership will take a unique turn to help you reach your goal. Don't argue when you should be making love. ***

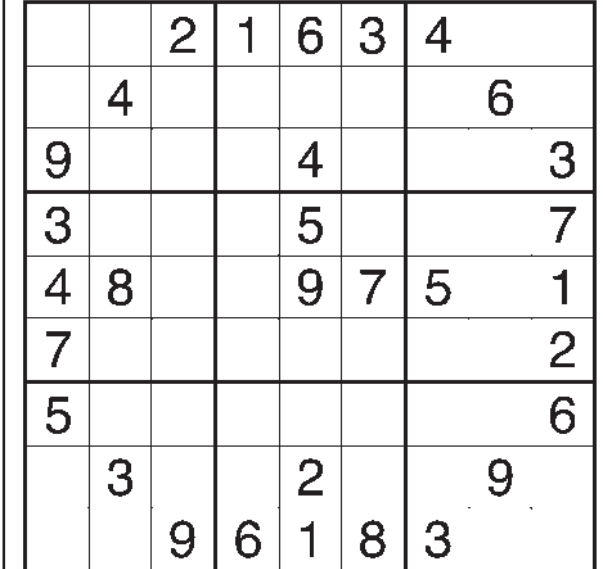
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Check out new ways to make your home comfortable and entertaining. An expenditure that brings you joy will ease your stress. A suggestion made by someone from a unique background will push you in the right direction. *****

Birthday Baby: You are popular, courageous and accommodating. You are willful and sensitive.

Eugenia's website—eugenialast.com, Eugenia's android app @ <http://bit.ly/exhoro> and join Eugenia on twitter/facebook/linkedin.

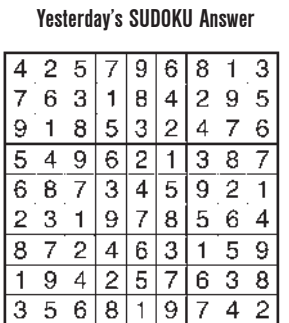
SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green



Difficulty Level ★★★ 8/20 ©2012 Conceptis Puzzles, Dist. by King Features Syndicate, Inc.

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.



WONDERWORD By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

THE FORD MUSTANG TURNS 50 Solution: 9 letters



© 2014 Universal Uclick www.wonderword.com Join us on Facebook 8/20 Arches, Boss, Bullitt, Cars, Chassis, Clutch, Cobra, Contours, Convertible, Coyote, Cylinder, Engine, Exhaust, Falcon, Ferzely, Ford, GLX, GTP, Hatchback, Indy Car, Joe Oros, John, King, Maxum, Models, Modular, Motor, Performance, Phillip T. Clark, Pony, Probe, Racing, Roadster, Roush, Saleen, Shelby, Speed, Sports, Steeda, SVO, Torque, Turbo, Type Yesterday's Answer: Warehouse Treasury 13, 14, 15, 16, 17 or 18 can be purchased online at www.WonderWordBooks.com. (Contain 130 puzzles.)

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- Knowledge in Quickbooks accounting software preferred;
- Minimum 2 years work experience in a Christian school;

Elementary Teacher (1)

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- Minimum 2 years teaching experience in a Christian school

Send resumes to:
Saipan SDA School Principal
P.O. Box 501063 Saipan, MP 96950

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Strategic Gaming Solutions, Inc. has immediate job openings for the following positions:

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Position Summary: Responsible for the entire function and activities of the Finance Department, for applying accounting principles and procedures to analyze financial information, forecast revenue and expenditures, preparing accurate and timely financial reports and statements and ensuring appropriate accounting control procedures.

Position Requirement: Bachelor's degree in Accounting, Business Administration or related area; or four to six years related experience and/or training; or an equivalent combination of education and experience. Minimum of three (3) years experience in accounting, in management of financial systems and budgets, financial reporting, financial data analysis and forecasting, auditing, taxation and providing financial advice, preferably in the gaming industry, with progressive supervisory/managerial experience required. Experience as a financial manager who has led a focused, business oriented team.. Good oral and written communication skills. Must be a practical, logical and decisive individual with the ability to get the job done. Must be extremely numbers-oriented and computer-literate, with superior spreadsheet skills; proficiency in accounting and Excel software highly preferred.

Application: Applications may be obtained from Club C HR Office, located at the Kanoa Resort, Beach Road, Susupe, Saipan. The detailed job description is available for review by applicants. Deadline for submission of completed application is on August 25, 2014 at 5:00PM.

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JVA# 1-2014-8

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- Must accept the Statement of Faith and the educational/doctrinal beliefs and objectives of the school and the church;
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2 High School Teachers (G9-12)

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- Must have at least 2 years teaching experience preferably in a Christian School;
- Must accept the Statement of Faith and the educational/doctrinal beliefs and objectives of the school and the church;
- Must adhere to all school policies and procedures and be willing to perform various other duties such as coaching, monitoring, etc.

1 Business Administrator

- Holder of Bachelor's degree in Business Administration major in Accounting;
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- Must be able to direct and administer financial/administrative operation of the organization;
- Must be able to formulate & implement financial policies and procedures in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;
- Must be able to prepare, analyze, and interpret financial reports;
- Must accept the Statement of Faith and the doctrinal beliefs and objectives of the school and the church;
- Must adhere to all school policies and procedure.

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Designed by LY WEI SHI CHONG

LaRoche homer lifts Nats over DBacks 5-4 in 11



WASHINGTON (AP)—Washington Nationals manager Matt

Williams said the last time he was part of three consecutive walk-off wins he was playing for the Arizona Diamondbacks.

This time the Diamondbacks were the ones being beaten.

Adam LaRoche hit a game-winning solo home run with two outs in the 11th inning to help the Nationals beat the Diamondbacks 5-4 Monday night for their seventh straight win.

It was the third walk-off win in as many days for NL-East leading Washington, the first two coming against the Pirates.

"They don't come around very often that's for sure," Williams said, "but (we) just keep fighting, which is a great trait to have."

LaRoche sent a 3-1 pitch from Will Harris (0-3) off the wall in the back of the Nationals bullpen and was mobbed by his teammates at home plate.

"I got every bit of it, I did," LaRoche said. Just a crazy few days. I don't know how we've gotten these walk off situations the last few days, but we have and have been able to grind back."

It was LaRoche's first career walk-off homer.

"Nice to get my first one, it took me long enough," the 34-year-old said.

Winning pitcher Craig Stammen (3-4) pitched out of a bases-loaded, no outs jam in the top of the inning.

"We missed our opportunity, me striking out instead of putting the ball in play," said Didi Gregorius, who made the second out against Stammen.

Arizona tied it 4-4 when David Peralta led off the ninth with a solo homer off Tyler Clippard.

Washington trailed 3-2 when Denard Span doubled with one-out in the eighth against Brad Ziegler and Anthony Rendon followed with a triple to tie it. Jayson Werth then scored Rendon with a sacrifice fly.

Miguel Montero had three hits for Arizona, and rookie Ender Inciarte extended his hitting streak to 18 games.

Arizona had taken the lead in the top of the eighth.

Jake Lamb drew a lead-off walk off Jordan Zimmermann, and Gregorius sent a 3-2 fastball into the Nationals bullpen for his fifth home run.

Wilson Ramos had given Washington a 2-1 lead with a two-run homer off Arizona starter Vidal



Washington Nationals pitcher Jordan Zimmermann throws against the Arizona Diamondbacks during the first inning of a baseball game, Monday, Aug. 18, 2014, in Washington.

Nuno in the seventh.

Nuno, winless in eight starts with the Diamondbacks, pitched well, allowing two runs and five hits over seven innings.

Zimmermann went seven-plus innings, allowing three runs on four hits. His three walks were a season-high.

He faced the minimum through four innings thanks to a pair of double plays.

In the fifth however, the first two Diamondbacks reached base via a walk and a single. Manager Kirk Gibson had No. 6 hitter Jordan Pacheco bunt the runners over, and Lamb's sacrifice fly made it 1-0.

Braves 7, Pirates 3

In Pittsburgh, Jason Heyward and Andrew Simonson homered to begin a

six-run first inning as the Braves beat the sliding Pirates for their fourth consecutive victory.

The early outburst was enough for Ervin Santana, who allowed three solo homers among nine hits in 5 1-3 innings. Santana (13-6) improved to 8-1 over his past 10 starts.

Pittsburgh has lost six in a row. Starling Marte went deep twice, and Neil Walker added a homer that became the first to reach the Allegheny River beyond right field at PNC Park this season.

Cubs 4, Mets 1

In New York, Kyle Hendricks and two relievers held New York to four or fewer hits for the fifth straight game and Anthony Rizzo and Javier Baez hit long

homers as the Cubs rallied for a victory over the Mets.

Hendricks (5-1) gave up just three hits in seven innings, allowing only Lucas Duda's home run in the fourth. The rookie right-hander won his fourth straight start — yielding four earned runs over 29 1-3 innings.

Neil Ramirez struck out two in a perfect eighth and Hector Rondon allowed a leadoff double but finished the four-hitter for his 18th save.

The Cubs came back once Carlos Torres, making a spot start for Bartolo Colon, was done after five innings.

Angels 4, Red Sox 2

In Boston, Mike Trout and Albert Pujols hit consecutive RBI doubles as the Angels extended their AL West lead with a victory over the Red Sox.

It was the fifth win in six games for the Angels, who moved a half-game ahead of idle Oakland.

David Ortiz reached base four times with a double, single and two walks for the Red Sox, who have lost three of four after winning four straight.

Angels starter C.J. Wilson (10-8) labored through 5 1-3 innings, giving up one run and five hits with five walks and five strikeouts.

Kevin Jepsen worked the ninth for his first save since Sept. 16, 2012. He struck out Ortiz with two on and none out before allowing a run.

Brandon Workman (1-7) lost his sixth straight start, giving up two runs and six hits in seven innings.

Phillies 4, Mariners 1

In Philadelphia, Jerome Williams took a three-hitter into the eighth inning and Andres Blanco hit his first homer in three years as the Phillies beat the Mariners.

Making his second start since joining the Phillies, Williams (1-0) allowed one run and three hits in seven-plus innings.

Mariners rookie lefty Roenis Elias (9-10) gave up one run and three hits in four innings. He constantly pitched out of jams because he walked six and hit one batter with a pitch.

Blanco connected for a three-run shot off reliever Dominic Leone in the fifth to give the Phillies a 4-0 lead. It was his first home run since July 1, 2011, for Texas against Florida.

Cardinals 6, Reds 5, 10 innings

In St. Louis, Jhonny Peralta's 10th-inning single, his third hit of the game,

drove in the winning run to give the Cardinals a victory over the Reds.

Jay Bruce homered, doubled and knocked in four runs for the Reds, giving him nine RBIs in four games. Brandon Phillips returned from left thumb surgery wearing a brace and was 0 for 4 with a walk.

Logan Ondrusek (3-3) entered with one out in the 10th and gave up consecutive singles to Matt Holliday, Matt Adams and Peralta. Ondrusek (strained right shoulder) was activated from the disabled list earlier in the day.

Peralta's RBI single in the first was just his second in 32 at-bats against the Reds this season. He also doubled and scored the tying run on A.J. Pierzynski's hit off Jumbo Diaz in the eighth.

Royals 6, Twins 4

In Minneapolis, Erik Kratz homered twice after replacing an ailing Salvador Perez, and Jason Vargas pitched seven strong innings to lead the first-place Royals to a victory over the Twins.

Vargas (10-5) allowed one run on four this and struck out three, but had his scoreless innings streak snapped at 17 when Oswaldo Arcia hit a solo homer in the seventh. Perez had two hits and two RBIs before leaving in the seventh because of discomfort in his right knee, helping the Royals win for the 21st time in 26 games.

Kansas City extended its lead over the idle Detroit Tigers in the AL Central to two games.

Trevor May (0-2) gave up three runs on seven hits and walked four in 4 2-3 innings for the Twins.

Orioles 8, White Sox 2

In Chicago, Nick Markakis hit a two-run homer and prevented one with a leaping catch in right field, and Nelson Cruz and J.J. Hardy each added a solo shot to power the Orioles past the White Sox.

Markakis was 3 for 5 with two RBIs and two runs, helping the Orioles increase their AL East lead to 7 1/2 games over the idle New York Yankees.

Cruz hit his 32nd homer, passing White Sox rookie Jose Abreu for the American League lead. Cruz is tied with Mike Stanton of the Miami Marlins for most in the majors.

Bud Norris (11-7) allowed two runs and three hits in seven innings to win his third straight start.

Chicago ace Chris Sale (10-3) yielded three runs and eight hits in six innings. He has dropped two straight decisions.

Nadal won't defend US Open title because of wrist

By HOWARD FENDRICH
AP TENNIS WRITER



Reigning champion Rafael Nadal pulled out of the U.S. Open because of an injury

for the second time in three years Monday, leaving Novak Djokovic and Roger Federer as the men to beat at the year's last Grand Slam tournament.

Nadal announced his withdrawal, blamed on a bad right wrist, one week before play begins at Flushing Meadows.

"I am sure you understand that it is a very tough moment for me since it is a tournament I love and where I have great memories from fans, the night

matches, so many things," a posting on Nadal's Facebook page read. "Not much more I can do right now, other than accept the situation and, as always in my case, work hard in order to be able to compete at the highest level once I am back."

The second-ranked Nadal plays left-handed, but he uses a two-handed backhand.

The 14-time major champion was hurt July 29 while practicing on his home island of Mallorca ahead of the North American hard-court circuit. The next day, Nadal announced he needed to wear a cast on his wrist for two to three weeks and would be sitting out tournaments in Toronto and Cincinnati.

The 28-year-old Spaniard also said at that time he expected to return for

the U.S. Open.

Instead, he's the fourth man in the Open era, which began in 1968, to decline to try to defend his U.S. Open title. The others were Ken Rosewall in 1971, Pete Sampras in 2003 and Juan Martin del Potro in 2010. Del Potro also is out of this year's U.S. Open after wrist surgery in March.

Nadal is 44-8 with four titles in 2014, including his record ninth French Open trophy in June. He has not competed since losing in the fourth round of Wimbledon on July 1.

With Nadal sidelined, five-time U.S. Open champion Federer joins Djokovic as a favorite in New York - even if there are questions about them.

Federer turned 33 this month, and it's been more than two years since he

won one of his record 17 Grand Slam titles. But he is coming off a runner-up finish at Wimbledon last month and a hard-court title at the Cincinnati Masters on Sunday.

After beating David Ferrer 6-3, 1-6, 6-2 on Sunday, Federer declared: "My game's exactly where I want it to be."

Djokovic won Wimbledon to take the No. 1 ranking from Nadal, but had a rough time on hard courts, losing his second match in both Toronto and Cincinnati.

Still, Djokovic will be seeded No. 1 at the U.S. Open, and the third-ranked Federer is expected to rise one seeding spot to No. 2, so they could meet only in the final. The draw is Thursday.

Federer reached six consecutive finals at Flushing Meadows from 2004-

09, but hasn't been that far since, losing in the semifinals in 2010 and 2011, the quarterfinals in 2012, and the fourth round a year ago, when he was dealing with a bothersome back.

Nadal won his second U.S. Open championship in 2013, part of a run of reaching the final in each of his last three appearances. He beat Djokovic to win the titles in 2010 and last year, and lost to Djokovic in 2011.

The one question about Nadal over the years has been his durability, on account of a hard-charging, play-each-point-as-if-it's-your-last style.

He did not enter the U.S. Open in 2012, part of an extended absence because of a problem with his left knee.

And this will be the second time Nadal chose to not attempt a defense of a major title: A year after winning Wimbledon in 2008, he missed that tournament with knee tendinitis.

Steve Ballmer debuts as LA Clippers owner



LOS ANGELES (AP)—Sweating, clapping and shouting until he was nearly hoarse, Steve Ballmer introduced himself to Los Angeles Clippers fans at a rally on Monday celebrating his new ownership of the NBA team.

The former Microsoft CEO made his way through the crowd inside Staples Center to Eminem's "Lose Yourself," exchanging high-fives and chest-bumping as he took the stage in front of 4,500 fans.

Ballmer paid a record \$2 billion for the team in a sale that was confirmed by a judge last week. The name of disgraced former owner Donald Sterling, who controlled the team for 33 years before being banned for life by the NBA for racist remarks, was never uttered during the rally.

"We're looking forward," Ballmer proclaimed, having removed his blue Clippers hat. "Everything is about looking forward."

Ballmer's fervor was in stark contrast to Sterling, who never spoke to the media and was famously frugal when it came to spending on the team during decades of losing—despite having amassed a fortune

through real estate.

"Today is about this other guy who just happened to have two billion dollars in his pocket," coach Doc Rivers joked on stage. "I asked him are you sure it went through and he said, 'I know my bank account is minus two billion so I know something went through.'"

Ballmer gave out his email address during the televised rally and was quick to assure fans he won't move the team to Seattle, where he's lived for 34 years. He was nearly an NBA owner last year before league owners chose to keep the Kings in Sacramento, rather than allow them to be sold to a group that included Ballmer and moved to Seattle.

"I love Los Angeles," he said. "Yes, I live in Seattle. We're not moving the Clippers to Seattle for a hundred reasons."

Ballmer used a microphone, but his booming voice easily filled the arena without it. He prowled the stage and gestured to make his points in the enthusiastic style he was known for among Microsoft employees.

"We're going to be bold. Bold means taking chances," he said. "We're going to be optimistic. We're going to be hard-core. Nothing gets in our way, boom! The hard-core Clippers, that's us."



New Los Angeles Clippers owner Steve Ballmer, center, fires up the crowd as he speaks at the Clippers Fan Festival on Monday, Aug. 18, 2014, in Los Angeles.

Chris Paul, Blake Griffin and DeAndre Jordan were among eight players on hand, along with Rivers, who guided the Clippers to 57 wins last season, his first with the team.

"When he came through the crowd, I literally had goose bumps," Griffin said afterward. "I don't know if there's one good word to describe him. I

know all our guys are excited about the energy he brings. It's completely different."

Ballmer took a few emailed questions from season ticket-holders, including a 26-year fan who asked how the next 26 years of the franchise would be different.

"I'll boldly say the Clippers will win many, many more

Larrys in the next 26 years than they did in the last 26," he said, referring to the Larry O'Brien trophy that goes to the NBA champion.

Rivers clearly got a kick out of Ballmer's passionate display, cracking up at his new boss' proclamations after having previously seen him only on YouTube.

"I love energy," Rivers said later. "You get caught up in that and that's good. That was great for our fans."

Interim CEO Dick Parsons testified during the court battle over the team's sale that Rivers would quit if Sterling was the owner going into next season.

"Sometimes you do have to take a stand," Rivers said. "I didn't think I was going to have to (quit), but a lot of us were willing to for sure."

He added, "You always have to move on. I have."

Ballmer gave the title "owner emeritus" to Sterling's estranged wife, Shelly, who negotiated the deal. She will receive two floor seats, 10 other seats and parking at Staples Center for games.

"Without her this deal does not get done," Rivers said afterward. "She wants to be a fan. She's no longer the owner. I'm fine with that."

Ballmer shared dinner with Rivers and some of the players a night earlier, when the discussion focused on where he'll sit during games. Sterling sat at mid-court within earshot of the players.

When someone suggested behind the Clippers' bench, like Dallas owner Mark Cuban does, Rivers said, "I don't know if I could deal with that energy."

Manziel's gesture taints Browns' loss to Redskins



LANDOVER, Md. (AP)—If the Cleveland Browns pick a quarterback based solely on numbers, there's not much either Johnny Manziel or Brian Hoyer did to show he deserves the job.

If the choice is based on maturity, the hot-shot rookie's obscene gesture lost him some ground to the nondescript sixth-year veteran.

Manziel raised his middle finger toward the opponents' bench as he returned to the huddle late in the third quarter of Monday night's 24-23 loss to the Washington Redskins. Truth be told, it was one of the few times a Browns QB actually found his intended target.

"It does not sit well," Cleveland coach Mike Pettine said. "It's disappointing, because what we talk about is being poised and being focused. ... That's a big part of all football players, especially the quarterback."

Manziel called the moment a "lapse of judgment" and suggested it was brought about by another game of unprintable verbal grief from another team's players and fans. He was openly mocked by Brian Orakpo in the first quarter when the Redskins linebacker raised both hands and performed the 2012 Heisman Trophy winner's "money" gesture after a sack by Ryan Kerrigan.



Washington Redskins outside linebacker Brian Orakpo (98) reacts after Cleveland Browns quarterback Johnny Manziel (2) was sacked during the first half of an NFL preseason football game Monday, Aug. 18, 2014, in Landover, Md.

"I get words exchanged throughout the entirety of the game, every game, week after week, and I should've been smarter," Manziel said. "It was

a 'Monday Night Football' game, and cameras were probably solid on me, and I just need to be smarter about that.

"It's there, and it's present ev-

ery game, and I just need to let it slide off my back and go to the next play."

Meanwhile, Pettine needs to pick a starting quarterback.

The performances were so unspectacular that the coach suggested he might audible from his previously stated plan of announcing his regular-season

starter on Tuesday.

"All the options are still on the table," Pettine said.

Hoyer started Monday night and completed 2 of 6 passes for 16 yards. His self-assessment: "It probably couldn't have been any worse. It's disappointing. It was embarrassing."

Manziel, the No. 22 pick in the NFL draft, was 7 for 16 for 65 yards and a touchdown. Of his series early in the game, he said: "I really tried to force everything and not let it fly like I should have. I need to get better at that and throw the dang ball."

Those stats, as mediocre as they are, were padded by series against the Redskins' backups. In the first quarter - when Washington's starters were in the game - Manziel was 2 for 7 for 29 yards, and Hoyer was 0 for 2.

"They both missed some throws," Pettine said.

If there's any hint as to which way Pettine is leaning, it's worth noting that Hoyer started for the second consecutive game and played mostly with the first-team offense. Manziel was sent out with the reserves to play in the second half.

Manziel took advantage by leading a 16-play, 68-yard drive capped by an 8-yard pass to Dion Lewis for Cleveland's first touchdown.

But the six points were overshadowed by the one finger.

"A lot of people just scream out things that are very, very disrespectful," Browns cornerback Joe Haden said. "He's just got to zone it out."

Algieri to Pacquiao: ‘I hit harder than you think’



Manny Pacquiao will be facing off against Chris Algieri in the ring later this year on Nov. 22. Algieri will be taking his shot at the welterweight champion at the Venetian in Macao, China. The fight will be telecast on HBO pay-per-view.

Algieri currently holds a record of 20-0 with eight knockouts and he says that he deserved his shot at the title against Pacquiao, whose record is 56-5-2 with 38 KOs. The American fighter also says that people underestimate his power because

of his eight knockouts out of 20 fights.

“I hit harder than you think,” Algieri said during an exclusive overseas telephone interview with BoxingScene.com. He also claimed that his previous opponent in a June bout, Russian boxer Ruslan Provodnikov, felt his power.

Algieri’s 12-round fight against Provodnikov ended in a judge’s decision. During the match, Algieri was dropped twice during the first round, his right eye almost closing shut during the eighth round. He somehow managed to compose himself and fight admirably against the Russian, however.

The American fighter also boasted of his height and weight advantage against Pacquiao.

“I have special skills which I can keep up in a fight. I know how to use my reach advantage and my jab is the key. This is boxing,” he said.

The fight against Pacquiao is supposedly Algieri’s opportunity to be on the main stage with Pacquiao, who is a living legend. He has also said that he is looking forward to a great fight and is hoping to win to show the world what he can do.

Pacquiao’s coach, Freddie Roach, who has been involved in choosing fights, said that the fight was Bob Arum’s decision.

Meanwhile, Pacquiao said his entire training camp in preparation for his encounter with Algieri will be held in General Santos.

This should be good news

for Roach, who had earlier earlier expressed concern over Pacquiao’s foray into the world of basketball.

Roach had hoped Pacquiao would train here exclusively to

avoid the distractions of his entry into professional basketball.

Pacquiao had already signified his intention to join the Philippine Basketball Association Draft late this month.

SCHORR

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their playoff chances.

Miyawaki won her all-CNMI duel against Conatsu Kaga, 6-0, 6-2, to take the top spot in Group C of the girls U12 singles. Kaga fell to a 1-1 record for a tie for second and third place with Vanuatu’s Rosalie Molballeh. Leafine Cronin of Samoa completes the field and she will be Kaga’s last opponent and a victory will move the CNMI bet to the next round. Miyawaki, on the other hand, is assured of a playoff slot and will go for a pool sweep today against Molballeh.

In the girls U14 singles, the top-ranked Lee bagged her second consecutive straight set win

after dominating American Samoa’s Michelle Miller, 6-0, 6-2. Lee is on top of Group A and eyes a sweep today when she collides with Fiji’s Namratta Nand, who is winless after two games.

In the boys U14 singles, the fourth-ranked Lizama pulled off an upset over the third-seeded Mason Caldwell of Guam. Lizama crushed Caldwell in the opening set, 6-1, and as leading at 3-0 when the latter retired due to exhaustion. With the victory, Lizama grabbed the solo lead in Group C and zeroed in on a playoff berth.

In other results, the two CNMI bets who lost their opening games last Monday bounced back yesterday. Asia Raulerson defeated Vanuatu’s Marion Hymak, 6-0, 6-2, to improve to a

1-1 record and stay in play-off contention in the girls U12 singles. To advance to the next round, Raulerson must stun the top-ranked Naia Guitton of Tahiti today. Guitton is unbeaten in two games to lead Group A, while Raulerson is tied for second and third with Samoa’s Eleanor Schuster.

In the girls U14, Julia Ishikawa came back from her opening loss to Lee with a 6-0, 6-1 triumph over Nand. Ishikawa now has to beat Miller in the last pool play game in Group A to join Lee to the playoff round.

Meanwhile, Ken Song and Tania Tan missed their bids for perfect records in Day 2, while Colin Ramsey is still looking for his first win.

Song bowed to top seed Gil-

liam Osmont of Tahiti, 0-6, 1-6, to drop to a tie for second and third with Vanuatu’s Samuel Strid in Group A. Song and Strid square off today with the winner moving into the next round of the boys U12 singles. In the girls U14, Tan fell to Vanuatu’s Emma Maucotel, 2-6, 1-6, and is pressed to beat Fiji’s Vienna Kumar today to keep her playoff chances. In the boys U16 singles, Ramsey is now 0-2, following a 2-6, 1-6 defeat at the hands of the second-ranked Kevin Maukloa of American Samoa. Ramsey tries to barge into the win column in Group B today when he meets Fiji’s Shivneel Chand, who is also searching for his first win after dropping back-to-back games.

ence room of the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Details of the league that will have six divisions (girls and boys U21, U18, and U13 age groups) will be discussed at the meeting. Interested teams are also asked to secure rosters, entrance fees, and waiver forms on or before Sept. 4. The league is looking to open competition on Sept. 5.

As part of BANMI’s avenues of service, to better serve the community, and share the same strategic plans to assist the fu-

ture development of coaches, players, other participants, team representatives, and followers, the group will offer the following programs for free: Coaches clinic by Elias Rangamar on Aug. 23 from 9am to 12pm at the Ada gym and scorebench official and junior referee clinic by the BANMI referee association on Aug. 23 from 1pm to 3pm at the Ada gym.

For more information, contact Rangamar at 233-6672 or send email to eliasrangamar@hotmail.com (**BANMI**)

BANMI youth league meeting today



Mariana Islands is calling on coaches, players, teams and others interested in participating in the 2014 BANMI Youth Basketball League to attend a meeting today at 5:30pm at the confer-

ence room of the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Details of the league that will have six divisions (girls and boys U21, U18, and U13 age groups) will be discussed at the meeting. Interested teams are also asked to secure rosters, entrance fees, and waiver forms on or before Sept. 4. The league is looking to open competition on Sept. 5.

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For more information, contact Rangamar at 233-6672 or send email to eliasrangamar@hotmail.com (**BANMI**)

FIESTA

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Moscoco, Rusty Musca,Joey Ranjo, and Eric Rabang, while D’Unknowns’ players list includes Raul Dumapit, Tom Bernardo, Ron Cal, Darwin Gonzales, Dannie Robles, Joe Sablan, and Wellington Ang.

The Top 3 finishers received trophies and cash prizes during the awards ceremony at SBC last Saturday. The league also recognized the individuals and teams that topped the scratch game, scratch series, handicap game, and handicap series.

In the men’s division, Percy Omecheleng nearly swept the four categories winning the scratch game (277) against Alex Castro (269); the scratch series (710) versus Angeles (657); and the handicap series (737) over Bernard Paraiso (724). Ronald Batac foiled Omecheleng’s bid for a sweep when he ruled the handicap game (294) against Castro (291).

In the women’s division, Yho Villavicencio went 4-for-4 with her 235 in the scratch game beating the 229 of Gloria Omecheleng and her 267 in the handicap game outclassing the latter’s 259. In the scratch series, Villavicencio carded 598 to edge the 591 of Kathy Mersai and the former also prevailed against the latter in the handicap series, 694-657.

In the team division, Fiesta topped two events with its 1,075 scratch game downing the 1,014 of SBC/J’s and its 1,175 in the handicap game defeating the 1,118 of PIN.Org. SBC/J’s and Graphics split the two other divisions with the latter posting 3,129 in the handicap series to top Fiesta and the former also winning over Fiesta, 2,869-2,854 in the scratch series.

Meanwhile, four more individuals were recognized in the awards ceremony. Robert Talavera and Kathy Mersai were lauded for recording the highest average in the men’s

and women’s division. Talavera averaged 194.37 to beat Omecheleng (192.06) and Dimaano (190.91), while Mersai registered 175.91 to down Gloria Omecheleng (164.02) and Villavicencio (162.10).

In the battle for the most improved player awards, Dimaano clinched the men’s crown, as he moved up 22.91 pinfalls from his previous average of 168. Irene May Alegre took the women’s plum with her 10.30 pinfall improvement as she averaged 144.30 this season (from 134). Alegre won over Taitano (7.04) and Mersai (2.91), while Dimaano edged Tito Corpuz (10.91) and Edgar Abalos (10.32).

PIC

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porary solo lead against Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan, which dropped to a 4-1 record, following a 70-76 loss to Shirley’s Coffee Shop/Century Hotel in the first match. Fiesta was scheduled to face Kanoa Resort last night and a win will move them back to the top spot and drop PIC to second place.

Mariana Resort finished the round-robin regular season winless in six games and with the play PIC played last week there was no way the former could barge into the win column. PIC drew points from every player it fielded in the game and despite its commanding lead at half-time, 52-20, the south side team still opted to pressure Mariana Resort on defense, resulting to the most lopsided win in the season.

PIC built an early 26-10 advantage after the first period behind the eight points of Jack Aranda and the team’s starters. The second and even third stringers of PIC came to play in the last three quarters and kept peppering Mariana Resort with a variety of shots en route to the 64-point win. Four PIC players broke into double figures with Ham Hambros leading the way with his 14 points, Bart Demapan added 13, while James Abuy and

Raymund Tolentino chipped in 12 apiece. Six other PIC players combined for 37 points to nearly match the entire output of Mariana Resort.

In the first game, Shirley’s/Century handed Fiesta its first loss in the league.

Shirley’s/Century led from start to finish, withstanding Fiesta’s fourth-quarter rally. Shirley’s/Century was enjoying a 64-41 lead after the third period when Fiesta made an uphill climb behind Lerio Pagarao and Elmer Esdrelon and sliced the deficit to single digit.

However, Rommel Usi stepped up and saved the day for Shirley’s/Century. Usi, who was held to two field goals in the first three periods, scored 10 of Fiesta’s 12 points. He hit two triples and fired the team’s last 10 markers. Josephus Aguilar drilled the two other points.

Sean Rabatos top-scored for Shirley’s/Century with his 20 points while John Jugos chipped in 15. The two hit multiple triples in the first three periods to give Shirley’s/Century a big lead, going into the fourth and final canto.

Meanwhile, the playoff round in the Inter-Hotel league will begin tomorrow. The top finisher gets a bye in the double-elimination playoffs, while the first pairing will have the No. 4 squad meeting the No. 5 team

tomorrow in Game 1 at 7:30pm. Game 2, between No. 3 and 6, is also set for tomorrow night at 9pm, while Game 4, between No. 2 and 7, is slated for next Tuesday at 10pm. Game 3, between No. 1 and loser of Game 1, is scheduled for next Tuesday, too at 7:30pm.

Pending the results of the Fiesta-Kanoa game last night, World Resort (4-2) and Shirley’s/Century (4-2) are tied for third and fourth, followed by Hyatt Regency Saipan (2-4), Kanoa Resort (1-4), and Mariana Resort (0-6).

First Game

Shirley’s 76 – Rabasto 20, Jugos 15, Usi 14, Dela Rosa 14, Aguilar 8, Catungal 4, Sedillo 2.

Fiesta 70 – Pagarao 21, Esdrelon 17, Ong 12, Macoto 6, Matsutaro 5.

Scoring by quarters: 28-11, 45-30, 64-41, 76-70.

Second Game

PIC 102 – Hambros 14, Demapan 13, Abuy 12, Tolentino 12, Babauta 8, Bartolo 8, Aranda 8, Del Rosario 7, Quitugua 6, Remillosa 4, Alegre 2, Buchun 2.

Mariana Resort 38 – Capuli 17, Gatdula 9, San Nicolas 5, Sanchez 2, Kapileo 2, Miemban 2.

Scoring by quarters: 26-10, 52-20, 81-23, 102-38.

Doubles results

Doubles matches in the POJC started yesterday with Kaga partnering with Cronin in downing Fiji’s Saoirse Breen and Hymak, 6-3, 6-1. Kaga and Cronin are now in the semifinals of the girls U12 singles and will challenge the top-ranked pair of Guitton and Schuster in the upper bracket semis. In the lower bracket, Miyawaki and Raulerson lost to New Caledonia’s Leilani Ipunesso and Molballeh, 6-7 (3), 6-3, 10-7. Molballeh and Ipunesso will face second-ranked Crystal Christman of American Samoa and Tahiti’s Lea Lamorelle in the other semis pairing.

In the girls U14, Ishikawa and Tsukagoshi eliminated Samoa’s Tyra Loulanting and Nand, 6-1, 6-3, to march into the semifinals against Fiji’s Ruby Coffin and Maucotel. Lee and Tan are also entered in the girls U14 doubles as the top-ranked pair and collide against New Caledonia’s Lea Bolo and Kumar in the other semis match.

In the boys U14 doubles, Lizama partnered with his Day 2 opponent—Caldwell—and the North Pacific duo endured Kiribati’s Benjamin Kourabi and Vanuatu’s Ben Pechan, 7-6 (3), 7-6 (4) to gain semis entry against the top-ranked team of Samoa’s Harley Cronin and American Samoa’s Larry Maglasan.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES				
MLB STANDINGS				
AMERICAN LEAGUE				
East Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Baltimore	71	52	.577	—
New York	63	59	.516	7½
Toronto	64	61	.512	8
Tampa Bay	61	63	.492	10½
Boston	56	68	.452	15½
Central Division				
Kansas City	69	55	.556	—
Detroit	66	56	.541	2
Cleveland	62	61	.504	6½
Chicago	59	66	.472	10½
Minnesota	55	68	.447	13½
West Division				
Los Angeles	73	50	.593	—
Oakland	73	51	.589	½
Seattle	67	57	.540	6½
Houston	52	73	.416	22
Texas	48	76	.387	25½
NATIONAL LEAGUE				
East Division				
Washington	70	53	.569	—
Atlanta	65	60	.520	6
Miami	62	62	.500	8½
New York	59	67	.468	12½
Philadelphia	55	70	.440	16
Central Division				
Milwaukee	70	55	.560	—
St. Louis	67	57	.540	2½
Pittsburgh	64	61	.512	6
Cincinnati	61	64	.488	9
Chicago	54	70	.435	15½
West Division				
Los Angeles	70	56	.556	—
San Francisco	65	58	.528	3½
San Diego	58	65	.472	10½
Arizona	53	72	.424	16½
Colorado	49	75	.395	20
BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS				

2014 NMBA-GNBF Friendly Competition

PHOTOS BY ROSELYN B. MONROYO



John Conducto makes a return from the backline, while teammate Cloyd Rosas stays in front during their men's doubles game against Jerry Hibi and Jordan Pangilinan in the 2014 NMBA-GNBF Friendly Competition last Friday at the TSL Sports Complex.



Glenn Blautjens returns to David Yao and Paolo Gozum, while teammate Sam Jones gets ready near the net.



Jordan Pangilinan dodges to give way to Jerry Hibi.



Above, Angelo Lin serves.



Far left, David Yao serves to Jordan Pangilinan.



Center left, Andreau Galvez jumps for a return, while teammate Ferdie Arago checks on their foes' positions.



Left, Lykki Lin leans back for a return.



From left, Andreau Galvez, Ferdie Arago, Angelo Lin, and Sunardi Li pose for a photo before playing in the men's doubles event.



Hannah Choi receives a shot from the backline.



Husband and wife Angelo and Lykki Lin collide as they chase the shuttlecock at the backline.



**LaRoche homer
lifts Nats
over DBacks
5-4 in 11**

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Saipan Tribune Sports

**Steve Ballmer
debuts as
LA Clippers
owner**

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28 WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 20, 2014

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Schorr, 3 others unbeaten in Fiji



By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Four CNMI junior tennis players are still unbeaten after Day 2 games in the 2014 Pacific Oceania Junior Championships in Fiji were completed yesterday.

Last year's U12 singles finalist Robbie Schorr led the list of undefeated players after a hard-earned victory over Kiribati's Banien Ioera. Schorr survived Ioera in an extended first set, 7-5, before falling in the second, 1-6, stretching the match to a deciding third set. In the rubber match, Schorr and Ioera went back-and-forth with the CNMI bet finally escaping with an 11-9 win to improve to a 2-0 record and take the solo lead in Group B. Ioera dropped to a 1-1 slate for a tie for sec-



ond and third place with Samoa's Phillip Warren, while Tonga's Sigi Palelei, who lost to Schorr in Day 1, is in last place with a 0-2 slate. Schorr faces Warren today to close out his pool play assignments and a win will seal the former's spot to the playoff round.

Besides Schorr, Malika Miyawaki, Carol Lee, and Luther Lizama also gained 2-0 records in their respective divisions after yesterday's matches to boost

See SCHORR on Page 26

PIC takes solo lead; Fiesta falls

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Pacific Islands Club finished its round-robin assignment in style after pummeling Mariana Resort, 102-38, in the second game in the 2014 Budweiser Inter-Hotel Basketball League last Thursday night at the Gilbert C.



Ada Gymnasium. PIC ended the regular season with a 5-1 record for the tem-

See PIC on Page 26

Fiesta rules PBA Saturday Night League

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan made a big leap in the 51st Philippine Bowling Association Saturday Night League after reigning supreme in the

18-week competition at the Saipan Bowling Center. Fiesta, which finished only fifth in the 50th edition of the weekend league, completed the recent season with a 47-25 record to finish in first place in the nine-team field. Fiesta defeated PIN.Org and D'Unknown for the top honors. PIN.org and D'Unknown had identical 43-29 slates



with the former winning the tie-break to drop D'Unknown to third. Last season's champion J's Restaurant/SBC was good only for seventh place with its even 36-36 mark and behind Team Mobil (40.5-21.5, Graphics (40.15-31.5), and IT&E (39.5-32.5). Completing the field were One Shot (34.5-37.5) and the Jets (27-45).

The newly crowned champion is composed of Raymond, Ross, Raphael, Ruselle, and Gigi Zapanta, Simon Manacop, Lala Taitano, Ador Dimaano, and Jerry Tan. Runner-up PIN.Org has Raymond Angeles, Ferdee Generoso, Allan Hernandez, Richard Leon, Ricky

See FIESTA on Page 26



ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Players of Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan pose with their championship trophies during the awards ceremony for the 51st PBA Saturday Night League last weekend at the Saipan Bowling Center.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Pacific Islands Club's Raymund Tolentino battles Mariana Resort's Richard Miemban for the rebound during the third quarter of their game in the Inter-Hotel caging last Thursday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.